

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1853.

[SIXPENCE.

"CITY ARABS" AND "HOME HEATHENS."

We have amongst us a peculiar race or class of people. They have a code of morals of their own—the very reverse of the code prevalent among Christians. They have their own organisation, their own ideas and habits, their own temptations and tribulations, their own joys and sorrows. They are the scandal of our civilisation, and the grief and shame of the wise and benevolent. Society is never allowed to forget them, for they make known their existence by the constant anxiety which they cause, the ceaseless depredations which they commit, and the daily enigma which they call upon us to solve—which enigma is, is one sentence, "What shall we do with them?" We cannot hang them; we cannot transport them; we cannot maintain them in prison; we cannot catch them. In our great cities they more especially abound. London is full of them; Manchester swarms with them; Liverpool is overrun with them. Preston, Bristol, Hull, Birmingham, Newcastle, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dublin, Cork—every town and city in the empire that has a thriving trade or manufacture, or a large population—is encumbered by their multitude, and vexed by their wickedness and their degradation. They are mostly young—so young, sometimes, as scarcely to be deemed responsible for their actions. Their ages vary from six to seventeen; and, though society wages a constant war against them—though famine and disease—though neglect and despair—though expatriation and the hulks are continually thinning their ranks, their numbers never diminish; for there is a fresh and superabundant crop of them continually springing up. A witness recently examined before a parliamentary committee appointed to inquire into their numbers, and the mode of dealing with them, has given them the name of "City Arabs." Another witness has given them the almost equally appropriate designation of "Home Heathens." "The 'City Arab,'" says Mr. M. D. Hill, the philan-

thropic Recorder of Birmingham, "has, in truth, all the vices, and some of the virtues, of the savage: he is indolent; averse from any settled or steady employment; averse from restraint of any kind. On the other hand, he is patient of hunger and thirst, and cold; and as to dirt, he rather delights in it than otherwise—it is by no means an evil in his estimation; and he would be much rather permitted to roam about at large, even suffering at times great privations, than he would be at school, or at work, under the restraints which belong to civilised society." Their code is, in general, that he is the best boy or lad who can obtain subsistence, or satisfy the wants of life with the least labour;—by begging or by stealing;—or who shows the greatest dexterity in accomplishing his object, and the greatest wariness in escaping the penalties of justice; and, lastly, the greatest power of endurance and defiance when he comes under the lash of the law. If detected in a crime, and punished, these "Arabs" consider that their punishment is an acquittance as regards society, and that, as soon as they have undergone it, they have fulfilled the terms of a bargain, and are justified in re-commencing the same courses. When, in prison they often behave with the utmost propriety, as if in accordance with their own rude principle of the balance between them and the world's law. The abodes of such of these "City Arabs" as have any abodes at all, except dry arches, door-steps, or the hedges—are as miserable as can be imagined. They sleep in dirty, unwholesome, ill-drained tenements—in rooms too small for the separation of the sexes, and for the purposes of decency. As many as forty and fifty "Arabs" sometimes sleep in one room, boys and girls promiscuously. At fifteen or sixteen years of age the male "Arab" is mated—but not with a wife. They indulge in intoxicating liquors—are afflicted with unmentionable and degrading diseases—and are far more vicious in their conduct, and filthy in their persons and

their language, than full-grown men and women of their own class. They seem to have a well-defined organisation among them, or something nearly akin to it. A certain class of "City Arabs" do nothing but steal provisions from shop doors, and sell them for a tenth of their value, or less, to the infamous keepers of the abominable lodging-houses which they frequent; a second class pick men's pockets, and never touch a woman's; a third devote themselves exclusively to picking the pockets of women, and refrain from meddling with those of men; while a fifth, again, do nothing but "draw the damper," i.e., steal from shop tills. In London there are regular gangs, each of which is commanded by a leader or "captain." They are not over anxious to make recruits, unless they hear of a destitute boy more than usually clever and daring. In that case, they try to enlist him. There is often a rivalry betwixt one gang and another as to which has made the most money by its depredations, and which has the cleverest leader, or the expertest thieves. No proper or reliable census of their numbers can be taken; but, in the year 1850, it appears that no less than 7070 of them were committed for trial. Some suppose that the number of convictions does not amount to more than one in thirty of the number of criminals; others believe that one in sixty would be nearer the average. In the first case we should have an "Arab" population of 212,000; in the second, of 424,000. The expense to the public of watching, apprehending, convicting, and punishing the few that fall annually into the custody of the police is not to be easily estimated; though, if put down at the small sum of £10 per annum each, it would amount to a very considerable expenditure. But this expense, great or little as it may be, is a trifle compared with the amount of their depredations upon the public, as may be judged by the notoriety of the fact to all the trading classes, who know by painful and individual experience its extent in their own cases. Among the good qualities of these young "Arabs," in addition to their



TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT KITTERLAND, OFF THE ISLE OF MAN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

patient endurance, often amounting to heroism, some of the Parliamentary witnesses mentioned a sort of spirit of honour which prevents them from "splitting," or of giving information against the receivers of the goods they steal—receivers who most commonly give them but a miserable per centage of the value. They are not easily managed, either by kindness or by severity. "They are naturally suspicious," said Mr. M. D. Hill, "and have, generally, been so unused to kindness that they suspect interested motives in those who offer it." Their ignorance is extreme. Of 9774 male prisoners between the ages of seven and seventeen, confined in the prisons of England in the year 1850, only 225 could read and write. Of these 225, it is supposed that the larger proportion were utterly ignorant of all useful secular knowledge, available for their guidance in this world, and knew the Bible only as a class or spelling-book, holding it in disuse, and deriving no advantage from its teachings. On this point Captain W. J. Williams, the Government Inspector of Prisons for the Home District, gave valuable and interesting evidence. The manner in which they live, the plunder which they make, their deplorable ignorance, and the use they make of the little and desultory religious instruction which they may have received, under the name of education, either at Sunday-schools in infancy, or in prison in after life, will appear, from the following evidence given by one boy aged sixteen, who was examined in September, 1851, in the Middlesex House of Correction:—

I lived in Cate-street, Whitechapel. Always a heap of boys there. Should think a hundred. About forty slept in the same room with me; all thieves. I was there about a month, and paid 3d. a night. I have been thieving above eighteen months, and have only been caught twice. I have done about sixty robberies in the eighteen months. The most I ever got was £1 15s. 6d., from a woman's pocket, in Whitechapel. I have never been in want the whole time. I did lead a merry life; but, I used to say often to myself, when I was going to pick a pocket, "I may be caught this time and transported; but, I pray to God I may be lucky, and shall not."

It is quite evident that the country cannot go upon the same system with regard to these "City Arabs," as that which has hitherto been pursued. It is of no use to catch such "young savages," as one witness called them, and put them into prison for the purposes either of instruction or amendment. A prison education is of little or no value, and all experience shows that prison reformation is but skin deep. Besides, to give, or pretend to give education to criminals, however young and interesting, however hapless and to be pitied, and to refuse it to equally destitute children, who have not qualified for the privilege by the commission of crime, is, to say the least of it, unjust and unwise. Many of the estimable individuals examined by the Parliamentary Committee, appeared to think that the evil could be met in some degree by the establishment of such reformatory institutions as the Rauehaus in Hamburg, the college of La Mettray in France, and the Red-hill Farm in England. We would not discourage the idea, or damp the benevolence of any one interested in so great a work; but we must express our firm conviction that the deeply-rooted evil requires not so much a present remedy as a future prevention. To grow criminals, and then to reform them, is but a clumsy and unsatisfactory process. Ignorance and bad example are the fruitful parents of the evil. Knowledge or education will not eradicate all crime and evil; but secular and religious instruction, wisely combined, and made free to the poorest of the poor, will do something towards their diminution. When the present noble Secretary for Foreign Affairs was Prime Minister of England, and introduced a bill for the enlargement of the franchise, he expressed a hope that "the Government of this country, in whose handssoever it might be placed, would consider most seriously and earnestly the great question of the education of the people."

He was convinced that if, after a measure of this kind, in another session of Parliament the Legislature should consider the means of establishing a really national system of education, it would confer one of the greatest blessings which could be conferred on this country, and one for which he believed the people were almost prepared." Now that his Lordship is again in office, the country will expect that this great question will once more occupy his attention. It is one of those practical measures which have been too long delayed and impeded by the rivalry of factions, and by the bitter animosities created by another question now happily set at rest. Let us hope that the new Ministry will not lose sight of it, and that the children of England will speedily be as well cared for in this respect as the happier children of America. In that country education is a RIGHT. In this it is a favour conferred upon criminals; but withheld from the innocent destitute, unless private charity step in to do, partially and imperfectly, the duty which the State should do completely for all its children. Lord John Russell believes the country to be almost prepared for so great a work. A zealous effort on the part of the Ministry would do much to ripen public opinion, and make it quite prepared. Even to fail in such a cause would be an honour.

SHIPWRECK, TERRIFIC EXPLOSION, AND LOSS OF THIRTY-FIVE LIVES, AT THE CALF OF MAN.

WE have received from a Correspondent at Castletown, Isle of Man, the following details of this lamentable scene, dated Dec. 29:—

A fearful calamity has just occurred in the south of the Isle of Man, causing deep distress to very many families, and spreading gloom over the whole neighbourhood.

The violent gales, rising occasionally into hurricanes, blowing from the southward and westward from Friday night to Monday afternoon, have done great damage by sea and land. Many vessels have been seen, dismasted, and in distress, drifting down the Channel; and the fragments cast upon our shores indicate great losses at sea. A life-boat bearing the name of the *British Queen* came on shore in Castletown Bay, on Monday morning.

At twelve o'clock on the same day, the *Lily*, a vessel of 160 tons register, bound from Liverpool to Ambrizo, on the coast of Africa, with a general cargo, consisting chiefly of bales of cloth, cottons, rum, cannon, firearms, and upwards of forty tons of gunpowder, having been driven back from Cork in a crippled condition, was carried by the tide from the westward into the Sound of the Calf of Man, the breadth of which is about 500 yards; and, in endeavouring to pass between the Kitterland islet and the southern extremity of the Isle of Man, was swung round in the current, which here runs, at some periods of the tide, at the rate of nine knots per hour, and struck on the northern point of the Kitterland. With difficulty, nine of the crew got upon the islet; the master, his son, and three of the crew being carried away by the surf, and drowned in the attempt; two of the nine also being severely injured.

In the course of the afternoon the vessel was handed over to the care of Lloyd's agent at Port St. Mary, distant about two miles, and he subsequently took possession of her. He was assisted in the charge by the chief constable of Castletown and one of his subordinates, and by the constable of Port St. Mary and several others, who were stationed on the vessel, as well as on the Kitterland and the Main Island, to guard the wreck, and land the stores when the weather and tide should permit. It appears that during the night of Monday several shots were fired to deter people from venturing near, some parties having made attempts at plunder.

At five minutes to eight on Tuesday morning the inhabitants of the whole of the south of the Isle of Man were alarmed at a fearful explosion, and on looking towards the Calf of Man beheld a vast column of fire and smoke ascending to a great height in the air. The houses were shaken as if by an earthquake, even beyond Douglas, a distance of eighteen miles. The spot where the catastrophe took place is wild in the extreme. The southern extremity of the Isle of Man terminates in the Mull Hills, rising nearly 600 feet above the sea; bold cliffs of clay schist occupy the coasts from the Chasius and Spanish Head, round to Brada Head and Port Erin. The nearest collection of houses is the hamlet of Craig Neish, distant in a hollow of the mountains, about a mile. As far as is at present known, only three survive to give any

record of the fearful scene. Thirty human beings are known to have been literally blown to pieces. The Kitterland, the Calf Island, and the southern extremity of the Isle of Man were strewn with heads, arms, legs, and trunks of what a few minutes before had been living men; and these, mixed up with minute fragments of timber, clothes, cottons, cloth, gun-stocks, locks, and barrels. The vessel itself at once utterly disappeared. Of the thirty missing twenty-one have left widows with families, two were widowers, and seven single men. So terrible a scene was never before witnessed on this island. The Lieutenant-Governor was on the spot very shortly after the explosion, and employed every endeavour to trace out all the circumstances connected with the awful event.

The story of James Kelly, of Port St. Mary, is:—That when they first approached the wreck they imagined they smelled smoke (it was about half past six o'clock at this time); this soon proved to be a fact; but, as they knew the powder was in the fore and aftermost parts of the vessel, and the smoke about midships, they did not apprehend danger, although several proposed to leave the wreck. However, some began to clear the cabin and sail case, and others to try to discover the cause of the smoke by cutting a hole in the deck, by which it is thought a current of air was created, which led to the exploding of the powder. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

An inquest was held on the bodies found, and the verdict returned was to this effect, viz.: "That they lost their lives by the exploding of gunpowder on board the brig called the *Lily*, of Liverpool.

The chief mate stated that about sixty tons of gunpowder were shipped at Liverpool, but it is thought that about twenty tons were washed away. Quantities of quarter-casks came ashore at Port Erin.

Of those who perished, 25 belonged to Port St. Mary, two to the Howe, and two to Castletown—leaving to lament their loss 22 widows and 72 fatherless children.

The miners who were working in Ballacorkish mine at the time, a distance of three miles from Kitterland, felt the shock so great that they hastened to the surface in fear; their candles were extinguished, and one man was knocked down by the shock.

A subscription has been opened for the widows and children of the deceased: an appeal has been made to England for aid.

The illustration upon the preceding page is from a sketch forwarded by our Castletown Correspondent—the sketcher looking westward up the Sound of the Calf of Man.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE ROYAL NAVY.—The present naval force of Great Britain consists of 545 ships-of-war (either in commission or in ordinary), carrying from 2 to 120 guns each. Of this number 180 are armed steamers, from 100 to 800-horse power engines, for active sea-service (besides revenue smaller vessels). This immense fleet employs in time of peace 140,000 able-bodied seamen, 2000 boys, 15,000 Royal Marines, and ten companies of Royal Marine Artillery. Besides, there are seven brigades of Dockyard Volunteers, well-trained to gunnery; viz. Deptford, Woolwich, Chatham, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Devonport, and Pembroke, and three other battalions, Coast Guard, &c.

MANNING THE NAVY.—The report of the committee on manning the navy is most anxiously looked for. We have been assured by naval officers that there are many men at Woolwich and other ports, but they will not enter, as they do not credit what is told them as to their being sure to be well treated, and have the restoration of their gill and better pay, as they had plenty of promises before which were never realised. A naval Lieutenant, after expatiating on the advantages which seamen will in future enjoy, according to the general opinion of the officers, was answered by a seaman in the following words:—"If I knew what you say, sir, to be law, I'd enter this moment." It is evident to all engaged in raising men, that while the future pay and prospects of seamen remain unknown to them, there will be great difficulty in obtaining men worth having.—*Times*.

SHIPS FOR TRANSPORT SERVICE.—The Admiralty (in pursuance of a resolution to promote the employment and consequent growth of seamen for the merchant service, and for national use in time of need) have given notice to the merchants and shipowners on Chancery, that on all future occasions of hiring ships for the conveyance of troops, four men would be required for every 100 tons of the vessel taken up; and, for the transport of convicts, nine men for every 200 tons, in addition to two boys for each ship; one half the crew to be composed of able seamen before the mast, the remainder to consist of officers and ordinary seamen, all in respect of a sister ship to the *Duke*.

ROYAL WILLIAM VICTUALLING YARD.—A contract for 1,000 qrs. of wheat, for the use of the navy, was taken at this establishment on Thursday, by Messrs. Frean and Daw, at 50s. 6d. per qr.

THE SCREW THREE-DECKER "MARLBOROUGH."—The "ways" are preparing at Portsmouth for the launching of the after-body of this new line-of-battle ship. The same interesting operation will be performed as on the screw line-of-battle ship *Duke of Wellington*—namely, the cutting the ship in halves, launching the afterpart some 30 feet, and then building in and filling up the middle—thereby increasing her tonnage to nearly 4000; a screw propeller will be added; and she will be in all respects a sister ship to the *Duke*.

The foreign ship *Beethoven*, Captain Erichs, which drove ashore during the gale last Sunday night, and released from her perilous position by her Majesty's steam sloop *Fury*, is placed on Mr. White's patent slip at Gosport, to examine the injury she sustained from some few heavy shocks she received on touching the ground.

FRENCH SCREW LINE-OF-BATTLE SHIPS.—The following is from the *Phare de la Loire*:—"For some time past the establishment of Indret has been manufacturing steam-engines for vessels in different ports. One has been sent to Lorient, for the *Jean Bart*, and one to Cherbourg for the *Marceau*. At this moment, also, experiments are making on the *Montebello*, at Toulon, with an engine of 160-horse power from Indret, intended as an auxiliary for first-class sailing-ships, to leave port without the necessity of being towed. An engine of 450-horse power is about to leave Indret for the *Austerlitz*, at Cherbourg. In construction there is one of 400-horse power for the *Assas*, which is building at Rochefort; one of 650-horse power for the *Ulm*, which is building at the same port; and one of 400-horse power for the *Phéléthon*, which is building at Cherbourg. To these we must add a machine of 1200-horse power, which the Minister of Marine has just ordered for the *Bretagne*, which is to be built at Brest."

NEW ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.—It is the impression in naval circles, as letters have been received by officers who formerly served in Arctic expeditions, requesting them to state to the Admiralty if they were willing to serve again, that one if not two expeditions will be sent to the Arctic regions early in the present year, and both well appointed with steam and sailing vessels. One of the expeditions will be sent to Smith's and Jones's Sounds, to follow up the discoveries made by Commander Inglefield last year. The other expedition will proceed to Behring's Strait, with the object of aiding Captain Collinson's expedition, as all eyes are now turned in that direction in the expectation that some intelligence will be learned of Sir John Franklin from Captain Collinson's party.

THE ARMY.—The following moves of infantry will take place immediately:—1st Foot 1st Battalion, from Portsmouth to Newport (S.W.), to relieve the 4th Regiment, to embark for Corfu. The 19th, from Winchester, will replace the 1st, at Portsmouth. The 88th Connaught Rangers from Parkhurst will move to Portsmouth, in place of the 85th Light Infantry, to embark for the Mauritius. The depots of the 4th and 85th will succeed the 88th at Parkhurst.

ROYAL SAPPERS AND MINERS.—An immediate augmentation of the Royal Sappers and Miners will be of great national importance. The corps might be made of the utmost consequence if augmented to five times its present strength, as fully that number could be advantageously employed. What is required to make the Sappers as effective as any Rifle regiment in the service is, to supply them with a good long-range rifle, their drill having for years past been precisely the same in every respect as that of Rifle corps. And, in addition, their qualifications as Sappers and Poutouers will render them almost invaluable in defensive operations.

THE MILITIA.—Tuesday's *Gazette* contains an Order in Council, commanding that all Deputy-Lieutenants, Colonels, and commanding officers of corps of militia shall immediately proceed to raise and enrol in their respective counties volunteers to serve for the term of five years, according to the provisions of the act passed last session for consolidating and amending the law relating to the militia in England.

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY.—An examination of gentlemen cadets has taken place at the Upper Academy at Woolwich-common, to ascertain the most eligible gentlemen cadets of the theoretical class for promotion to the practical class, on the appointment of the gentlemen cadets of that class, recently passed at the Royal Arsenal, to commissions as second lieutenants in the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers, when nineteen gentlemen cadets were appointed to join the practical class for study at the Royal Arsenal on the re-assembling on the 2nd of February.

DISTRESSING SHIPWRECK.—During the hurricane that prevailed along the coast on the 26th and 27th ult., the Hamburg brig *Louise and Emilie*, Captain Bartels, from Hamburg to Rio Grande, was wrecked about two miles to the west of Dungeness Lighthouse, and out of a crew of 10 men and seventy-four German emigrants, five of the former and thirty-four of the latter only were saved. Every effort has been made by the families in the neighbourhood temporarily to clothe the survivors, but, as they lost the whole of their property, a subscription has been opened on their behalf at Ryde, New Romney, and Lydd.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

For those of our readers who have not seen Paris at this period, it is difficult to imagine anything so gay as the aspect it presents; and this year the *commerce de luxe* has decidedly displayed an advance over many preceding ones. Although the *Jour de l'An*, the greatest fête in the French calendar, has passed, the movement and excitement it has created, the feasting and visiting, and presenting of gifts, seem to have but little abated; and the improvement in the weather, which last week was most dreary, goes far to keep up these rejoicings. The Parisian, male or female, is essentially *flâneur* by nature and habit; consequently, the weather has much to do with his enjoyment; if he cannot stroll along the Boulevards and up the Champs Elysées, because rain and fog deprive even those delights of their highest charms, he has little else to interest him. True, there are the arcades—to him a veritable Arcadia—of the Palais Royal; but that is only one of his many cherished resorts; and he will probably get wet before he arrives there. Fine weather is, therefore, indispensable to his full enjoyment of this season of festivity; and, as the mountain would not come to Mahomet, and Mahomet had to go to the mountain, so the sun declining to shine on the *galeries* of the *Jour de l'An*, our Parisian makes the gaieties of the *Jour de l'An* extend till the sun shines. Few English people can have an idea of the sums spent in Paris at this season in *bonbons*. In the first place, the quantity purchased is something perfectly amazing; in the second, the prices demanded, and unhesitatingly given, is a thing yet more astounding. We know one family in which there are three ladies; a friend this year sent to each a basket containing *bonbons* decorated with flowers, and costing the moderate sum of 600 francs apiece—in all, £72—and this is by no means a unique instance. Everybody gives to everybody, for the *Jour de l'An*. From a diamond tiara to a leg of mutton, nothing comes amiss: the amount of silk and braid and Berlin wool, of gold cord and silver thread and chenille, of pasteboard and wire and muslin and canvas, employed in fancy works—of netting and knitting and knotting, of crochet and embroidery, of tent-stitch and chain-stitch and satin-stitch and feather-stitch, performed in the same cause—of stitches in the side and aches in the head consequent on sitting up of nights to complete the said works in time, will pass the calculation of Cocker.

The *Porte St. Martin* brought out, last week, a new piece, entitled "La Faridondaine," which bids fair to have a large share of success. At once moving, interesting, and gay, it presents a continual change of action and emotion; and the singing, of which there is a great deal most happily interspersed, no less than the acting of Madame Hebert Massy, lends it an additional attraction.

The Théâtre Lyrique continues to draw full houses for the representation of "Tabarin," written by M. Alboize, and composed by M. Georges Bousquet. Notwithstanding certain family likeness with "Paillasse," so imminently played by Frédéric Lemaitre, this piece is not wanting in originality; and the music has the charms of gaiety, facility, and melody, qualities more likely to conduce to general popularity than more classical and scientific ones. *Tabarin*, a sort of strolling charlatan, has a young and beautiful wife, *Francesquine*, who attracts the notice of a *jeune seigneur*. This gentleman, whose name, by an extra degree of discretion on the part of M. Alboize, is not confided to the audience, forms the plan of carrying off *Francesquine*, and, to all appearance, succeeds, to the despair of our mountebank poet. By one of those ingenious contrivances, however, which never fail to turn the tables in *opéras comiques* and *vaudevilles*, it turns out that the biter is bit—that he has *élevé*, by mistake, *Mdlle. Primeroise*, the sister of *Pansuert*, a *cabarettier*, and *Tabarin* finds his *Francesquine*, as ever, a model of purity and conjugal virtue.

The great attraction of the moment, however, is the new ballet at the Opera, "Orfa," composed by M. Adolphe Adam, for Cerito. Nothing can be more effective than the whole of this ballet. The *mise en scène* is brilliant to the highest degree, the music full of melody and movement, and Cerito, who dances with all the exquisite grace and originality which distinguish her, is well supported throughout.

The installation of Jerome Bouaparte in the Palais Royal is deferred, by his own desire, for the convenience of the annual exhibition of pictures, which there takes place; a consideration for which the artists have reason to be grateful, as much delay and trouble would have been caused by a change of the usual arrangements at this season. The new locality for the *Exhibition* has not yet been fixed upon, though two or three different sites are named as likely to be chosen.

The *Bourse* has become within the last few weeks the object of those sarcasms and *jeux de mot* which the *esprit Français* is ever so prompt to coin, and which it is wholly impossible for it to refrain from venting on whatever object it can, without too much burning its fingers, venture to attack. The last of these sallies is the following definition—"La Bourse est un local ainsi nommé parce qu'on vous y la demande."

The reception at the Tuilleries on New Year's-day was remarkably brilliant. Some idea of the splendour of the furniture and decorations may be formed from the fact that the price of the carpets alone of the three great *salons de réception* amounted to a million of francs (£40,000). The black coat, in which Napoleon Jerome persists in appearing at all these *solemnités*, is a subject of constant remark. On this occasion it was decorated by the *grande croix de la Légion d'Honneur*, presented to him in the morning by the Emperor, but no other attempt was made to enliven the sobriety of his costume.

A prospectus has been issued by a Spanish company—a serious, bonâ fide company, of known names—proposing to the French Government to found in Paris a *cirque* for the celebration of bull-fights, which they assert are by no means dangerous, inasmuch as that men are very rarely killed in them!

A better proposal still is one which requests the Emperor's authority to open the *Palais de Cristal*, in 1854, with a grand *Exhibition* of the human race. From the North Pole to the tropics, the earth is to be searched to produce specimens of her inhabitants, who are to be presented, like wild beasts, for the benefit and instruction of two or three nations of their civilised fellow men.

The simultaneous recognition of the French Empire by the three Great Northern Powers is made

of war. As yet the former prevails, but the latter is not subdued. The new creations amount to thirty-eight. According to the new constitution, the number of the Senate may be increased to 150, besides the cardinals, marshals, and admirals, who are senators of right. The present number is 116. There remain, therefore, thirty-four seats in the Senate yet to be disposed of.

The continued fall in the Paris Funds is to be accounted for by the reaction which was inevitable after a rise brought about by speculation and delusion. Several defaulters are daily announced.

The accounts of the Paris Savings-bank are kept upon a system which permits the balance to be struck to the end of the year on the 31st Dec. We have heard so much of late years of "cooking the accounts," and "making things pleasant," that figures are not received with the same confidence which formerly attached to them. With this possible reservation, the statement of the deposits of the Paris Savings-bank is of some importance as a test of the restoration of public confidence. In 1851, the deposits were 25,305,434 fr.; and in 1852, 33,703,575 fr., being 8,398,144 fr. more. The number of depositors and of accounts opened also presented an increase.

The empire has been proclaimed by General Pelissier in Algeria.

ITALY.

The Government of Count Cavour in Piedmont still hold their ground with credit, and it is hoped will be able to withstand the attacks of their clerical and their revolutionary antagonists. The Ministry have prepared a new Civil Marriage Bill, having been induced to withdraw the bill adopted by the Chamber of Deputies, in consequence of the effect produced by the publication of the Pope's letter to King Victor Emmanuel. M. Cavour said the other day, that the Cabinet thought it prudent to imitate the example of England, on the occasion of the recent act of Papal aggression, and not to institute legal proceedings against the bishops for their interference in the question of civil marriage. This view of the case was adopted by the Chamber by a large majority.

SPAIN.

The Treasury receipts for December show a diminution of no less than 9,057,367 reals in the public revenue for 1852, as compared with 1851.

TURKEY.

A Turkish expedition has been fitted out against Montenegro, the Ottoman Porte having resolved to compel this little mountainous district to acknowledge its sovereignty.

AMERICA.

By the steamer *Arctic*, we have advices from New York to the 25th ult. Much excitement has been occasioned in Havannah by the arrival of her Majesty's steam-figate *Vesta*, with the notorious slave schooner *Venus*, and two other slaves as prizes.

In the Senate a resolution had been submitted by the chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations, calling for copies of the official notes from the Governments of England and France, inviting the United States to join with them in a tripartite convention, that neither Power would permit the island of Cuba to be taken from Spain.

Cotton was in good demand in New York. The sales in four days amounted to 12,000 bales at an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ c. per lb.

The insufficient rate of payment to American diplomats abroad having forced itself upon the notice of the United States Government, inquiries have been addressed to the representatives of the Republic in foreign capitals as to the cost of living. The replies of a large number have been published. They all concur in stating that the post of Foreign Minister is inadequately remunerated, and exacts considerable personal sacrifice from those who occupy it. Mr. Abbott Lawrence is decidedly of opinion that the present salary of the United States Minister in London is inadequate, and that the salary ought not to be less than 20,000 dollars. Mr. Lawrence's large private fortune enabled him to entertain his countrymen, and exchange hospitalities with the British aristocracy; but the gentlemen who represent the United States in Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Constantinople, Brussels, Madrid, &c., all complain that the unavoidable expenses of their establishments greatly exceed their official income, and impose restraints upon them entirely unbecoming the character and dignity of the Government of the United States.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR CHARLES WAGER WATSON, BART.

 The death of this respected Baronet occurred very suddenly, on the 30th ult. While out with the Suffolk foxhounds on that morning, he fell from his horse in a fit, and immediately expired. Sir Charles had nearly completed his fifty-third year. He was the only son and heir of the late Sir Charles Watson, on whom, when only in his ninth year, a Baronetcy was conferred, in requital for the eminent services of his deceased father, Rear-Admiral Watson, who signalled himself on several occasions, and died, in 1757, in the chief command of the naval forces in the East Indies. The Admiral's mother was half-sister to another distinguished seaman, Sir Charles Wager. The gentleman whose sudden death we record, descended, through his mother Juliana, daughter of Sir Joseph Copley, Bart., from the old Yorkshire family of Copley, and through his grandmother from the equally ancient house of Boller. He was born 4th January, 1800; and married, 17th June, 1827, Jemima-Charlotte, eldest daughter of Charles Garth Colleton, Esq., of Haines Hill, Berkshire, by whom he leaves several children, the eldest son being now Sir Charles Watson, third Baronet, born in 1828.

The deceased Baronet resided at West Wrating Park, Cambridgeshire, and served the office of High Sheriff of that county a short time since.

SIR JONATHAN WATHEN WALLER, BART.

SIR WATHEN WALLER was only son of Joshua Phipps, Esq., and was originally brought up to the medical profession. Becoming, however, heir to his grandmother, Anne Waller, as well as to his grand-uncle, James Waller, he adopted, by sign manual, in 1814, the surname and arms of Waller, and was, not long after, created a Baronet. Subsequently he held the appointment of Groom of the Bedchamber to his late Majesty, King William IV., and was made a Knight Grand Cross of the Guelphic Order. The Wallers, from whom Sir Wathen descended, were a branch of the ancient family seated at Groombridge, county Kent, from which also derived the famous Parliamentary commander, Sir Hardress Waller, and the celebrated poet, Edmund Waller. One of the ancestors, Richard Waller, was at Agincourt, and, in honour of having captured the Duke of Orleans in the battle, obtained from Henry V. the addition to his crest of a shield of the arms of the Duke, pendent from the sinister side of a walnut tree. The French Prince, having been brought to England, resided with his captor at Groombridge.

Sir Wathen Waller was born 6th October, 1769. He married, first, 23rd February, 1793, Elizabeth, second daughter of Thomas Slack, Esq., of Braywick Lodge, Berks; and, secondly, 1st October, 1812, Charlotte-Sophia, Baroness Howe in her own right, widow of the Hon. Penn-Asheton Curzon, and eldest daughter of the renowned Admiral Richard, Earl Howe. By the latter (who was mother, by her first husband, of the present Earl Howe, and who died 3rd December, 1835) he had no child, but by the former he leaves two sons and two daughters, all of whom are married. The elder son, now Sir Thomas Wathen Waller, second Baronet, is Secretary of Legation at Brussels.

Sir Wathen died on the 1st inst., at his house, New Cavendish-street, Portland-place. For many years he resided at Pope's Villa, Twickenham.

THE REV. FRANCIS HODGSON, PROVOST OF ETON COLLEGE.

FRANCIS HODGSON, a distinguished scholar, poet, and divine, was son of the Rev. James Hodgson, rector of Barwick, county of York, and was born the 16th November, 1781. He received his early education at Eton College, over which he was afterwards to preside as Provost. From Eton, where he was for a short time assistant-master, Mr. Hodgson proceeded to King's College, Cambridge, and became classical tutor there. Entering holy orders, he was eventually made Archdeacon of Derby, and held a share of the living of Bakewell, to which he was presented by the Duke of Devonshire.

On the death of Dr. Goodall, in 1840, Mr. Hodgson was appointed to the post of Provost of Eton College, which has attached to it the rectory of Eton. Mr. Hodgson's nomination gave general satisfaction: his name already stood high in learning and literature. While at the University he formed an intimacy with the poet Byron, which ended but with the death of the latter. Lord Byron not only regarded Mr. Hodgson with great affection, but entertained a very elevated opinion of his intellectual endowments. This estimation was justified by several poetic works subsequently published by Mr. Hodgson; in particular, by a translation of Juvenal; a poem, entitled "Lady Jane Grey," and some other pieces of smaller pretension. In his later days Mr. Hodgson made considerable contributions in Latin to the "Arundines Cami," a collection of poems of Latin and Greek, which was the successful and popular forerunner of two other beautiful works of similar character, the "Anthologia Oxoniensis," and "Sabrina Corolla." Mr. Hodgson was a scholar of sound and accurate judgment, and of delicate and refined taste. As a man, he was remarkable for benevolence and singular kindness of heart. As a friend, he was no less worthy of admiration for warmth and sincerity of affection. Mr. Hodgson twice married; his first wife was a Miss Tayler, sister of Mr. Frederick Tayler, the admirable painter in water-colours: she died, leaving no child. His second wife was the Hon. Elizabeth Denman, Lord Denman's second daughter, whom he wedded 3rd May, 1838. The Rev. Provost died on the 29th ult., at the Lodge, Eton College. He leaves, by his second wife, who survives him, five children.

The mortal remains of the lamented divine were interred on the 4th inst., in the vault of the College chapel at Eton.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRIGHTFUL CATASTROPHE ON THE NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

One of the most frightful collisions that ever occurred on the line of the London and North-Western Railway, or any of its tributaries, took place on Monday evening, at a place termed the High-bridge, about a mile on the London side of the Oxford station.

It appears that, on Monday evening, the 5.30 passenger-train to Bletchley was preparing for its departure from Oxford, when a coal-train was telegraphed to have left Islip at five o'clock, and was coming. The Oxford station-master, on receipt of the message, told the guard of the passenger-train that he must not start until the coal-train had arrived. But it seems that a ballast-train, with a white light, arriving, it was mistaken for the coal-train; and the passenger-train left, and soon darted onwards at the rate of about thirty miles an hour, till it met the coal-train proceeding onwards towards Oxford, at a rate of about twelve miles an hour, but having a great impetus upon it, from the circumstance that it was drawn by two heavy engines, and having between fifty and sixty coal trucks attached. The shock is described as frightful, and the crash was heard in all parts of the city of Oxford. The engines reared up, the fire flew about in all directions, and in a few seconds after the crash the line and its vicinity was strewed with the shattered fragments of the engine and tenders, the carriages and human bodies all mixed together in an almost indistinguishable mass. As fast as the bodies of the dead and the mutilated could be recovered from amongst the debris, or from the water in which they were some of them found immersed, they were conveyed either to the Infirmary, or to other places for medical aid.

The passenger-train consisted of four carriages, besides the engine and tender. Twenty-one passengers were paid for at the Oxford booking-office by this train, chiefly third-class, and the remainder second-class. The third and second-class carriages were smashed to atoms. The entire of the three engines and their tenders are a perfect wreck. The sensation created by the sad calamity in Oxford, and its vicinity, is truly frightful, and throughout the day the "High Bridge," the scene of the occurrence, was crowded by hundreds of people, making the most painful inquiries after relatives and friends.

Seven dead bodies have been found, and twelve persons more or less wounded. Of the other passengers, one gentleman, slightly bruised, came to town by the Great Western Railway, and another arrived at Bletchley. There were two little boys, also, passengers in the second-class carriage, who miraculously escaped even a scratch, although the carriage was shattered to atoms. Lee, the engine-driver of the coal train, saved his life by jumping off into the water.

Captain Bruyeres, and other officials, were on the spot instituting a minute investigation into the sad affair.

An inquest was held on Wednesday; when the fact was brought out still stronger, that the driver seeing the ballast engine enter the station, mistook it for the expected coal train, put on his steam, and moved off without waiting for any signal to start. It appears that the melancholy list of victims amounts to eight killed, two mortally wounded, and about twenty others more or less seriously injured. Of the six men in charge of the engines which came into collision, only one has escaped with life. The inquest was adjourned.

THE AMERICAN MINISTER.—A grand banquet was given on Tuesday, to the Hon. J. R. Ingersoll, the American Minister, at Liverpool. There were about sixty guests, comprising the chief American merchants, and others connected with the trade; the other guests being the Earl of Derby, Col. De Kinny, the Earl of Sefton, Wm. Brown, Esq., the Worshipful Mayor of Liverpool, John Cheetham, Esq., M.P., Captain Forbes, U.S., Mr. Mansfield, &c. Last evening, a similar banquet was given to the same Minister, at the Town-hall, Manchester. The Manchester Commercial Association presented an address, in the morning, of the same day, to Mr. Ingersoll. We shall next week give an illustration of the banquet scene.

CHRISTMAS AT GREAT CHESTERFORD.—On Tuesday (last week) the children of the public schools at Great Chesterford were entertained with a large Christmas-tree, brilliantly illuminated, and decked with appropriate gifts, by the kindness of the Hon. and Rev. Lord Charles Hervey, vicar of the parish. A number of the children gathered round the tree, and sang a carol; whilst the Lady Harriet Hervey distributed the presents. The school, which is under Government inspection, was built for the parish and surrounding district, by Lord Charles Hervey, and contains about 150 children of both sexes.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE ROYAL EDINBURGH ASYLUM.—On New Year's Eve the inmates of this asylum were entertained with Highland dances, songs, a scene from Sheridan's play of "The Rivals," and other amusements. The Highland dancers wore full national costume, the room was tastefully decorated, and the festivities were characterised by joyousness and general decorum. This asylum is the largest establishment of the kind in Scotland, and contains at present 550 patients—there being distinct buildings for pauper lunatics and patients of high rank. Employment and recreation are the principles of management: the males mostly work in a farm, and the pleasure grounds; and others work at shoe-making, tailoring, carpentry, painting, plumbing, blacksmiths', and upholstery; whilst the females work at embroidery, knitting, and domestic occupations generally. A ball and concert are given weekly, in which the patients of both sexes join; and in summer excursions are made in the adjoining country, with cricket-matches, bowls, quoits, &c.; and the asylum publishes its own journal—the *Morning-side Mirror*—the contributors and printers being alike inmates of the institution.

PRINCE ALBERT'S FARMING.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert possess several farms in the Isle of Wight, two of which, containing about 600 acres, the Prince farms himself. Every recent improvement has been introduced on these farms, and steam-engines are now performing on them various agricultural operations. His Royal Highness is a thrifty and successful farmer, and the results of his skill and superintendence may be regularly seen at the neighbouring markets. The Prince is partial to the rearing and fattening of the Scotch black cattle.

BIRMINGHAM.—The main feature in the state of trade last week has been another advance of 20s. per ton for bar and sheet iron, and for other descriptions in proportion. Plates are now quoted at from £12 10s. to £13, and bars and rods at £11. A reduction in the price of Scotch pigs during the past week at first created some little excitement, and tended towards a depression of the market, but this temporary feeling of distrust was soon overcome. One eminent ironmaster refused an order for 20,000 tons of pigs at £5 10s., and is now selling hot blast mine pigs at £6 10s. per ton. Notwithstanding the great quantities of coal and coke brought from Derbyshire and North Staffordshire into this district, the coal trade maintains its position.

DEVONPORT SAILORS' HOME.—This home has been opened for the use of sailors. It is situated in the middle of St. Ann's-street, in an excellent part of the town, and has accommodation for fifty beds at present. The sailors will be provided with board, lodgings, washing, &c., for 12s. a week, and may have a bed for 6d. a night. The house is well adapted for the home; and it is stated that when each room is partitioned off into cabins, there will be accommodation for 200 occupants.

ESCAPE FROM A TIGER.—On the evening of Christmas-day, as a young woman was carelessly gazing at a leopard in Battye's menagerie, in Huddersfield, she sauntered within reach of the tiger's den, when the ferocious animal thrust its paw through the wires, and seized her by the coil of platted hair behind the crown of her head. A female standing by saw the tiger seize its prey, and with extraordinary presence of mind seized the girl by the waist, and maintained her hold. The tiger still retained his grasp, and roared and plunged terrifically. At this moment the struggle was a fearful one. At length the comb fell from her hair, the coil unfurled, and the young woman was rescued, leaving the tiger's paw full of her hair. The unfortunate girl fainted, but soon recovered again, and without any injury beyond the fright, and the loss of a handful of hair.

BLOWING UP A MONSTER CHIMNEY.—Passengers who have had to pass Warrington junction, about twenty miles from Liverpool, have frequently been surprised at the altitude of the chimney connected with Messrs. Muspratt's chemical works. It was 400 feet high; 46 feet diameter at the base; 17 feet in diameter at the summit; contained 3,500,000 bricks, 2,500 tons in weight; and cost £7,000 erecting. There was only one chimney higher in the United Kingdom. There being no further use for the chimney, it has been blown up, under the superintendence of Mr. Stephen Court. A number of holes were delved round the base; and fourteen charges of gunpowder were inserted. At half-past two o'clock the train was fired. Nine charges exploded without any apparent damage being done to the stability of the shaft; but the report of the tenth had no sooner been heard than the chimney was rent from top to bottom, and the huge fabric fell, crumbling away gradually from the base upwards. A dense cloud of lime dust hid the ruins for a few seconds; but when it cleared away, the 3,500,000 bricks were perceived in the shape of a huge mound. No accident of any kind occurred.

NITHSDALE IRONWORKS.—We understand that these works, which have been standing for about a twelvemonth, have just been bought by parties already engaged in the iron trade. It is their intention to put them into immediate operation. This, coupled with the blowing-in of Lugar and Portland Ironworks, will again afford employment to many hundreds of workmen in those districts of Ayrshire.

IRELAND.—The late Lord-Lieutenant and the Countess of Eglington held an undress and farewell levee in Dublin Castle, on Tuesday, which was numerously attended by all parties. The officers of the garrison took the occasion of presenting the Countess of Eglington with a magnificent bracelet, set with brilliants and emeralds, and bearing the inscription—"To Teresa, Countess of Eglington and Winton, by the officers of the staff and household, in memory of 1852." Lord and Lady Eglington and their family took their departure for England on Wednesday.

EPITOME OF NEWS, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On the 15th February, Mr. Butt, M.P., who was counsel for Kirwan, is to bring a bill forward in the House of Commons "to make better provision for the granting of new trials in criminal cases."

A corrected alphabetical list has been printed, by order of the House of Commons, of election petitions for the present session. The number of members petitioned against is 132, of which number eight cases are invalid or withdrawn, leaving 124.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Lieut.-Colonel Seymour, honoured Mr. Ward with a visit at his studio at Upton-park-villa on Tuesday, to inspect his historical picture of the "Execution of Montrose."

The Hon. Miss Stapleton, sister of Lord Beaumont, has received the sacrament at Carlton Church, on Christmas-day.

The consumption of tea in the Royal navy has so increased that another contract for the supply of 50,000 lbs. has been taken by Messrs. Stericker and Co., of Fenchurch-street.

Considerable anxiety is felt at the progress which the sea is making on the beach in Dover Bay. On Tuesday last, a full of 200 tons of chalk cliff took place in the rear of Athol Terrace.

In consequence of an application from an eminent importer and salesman of Leadenhall-market, the Lords of the Treasury have issued a general order to the several ports directing the delivery of foreign rabbits, alive or dead, in future free of duty.

The magistrates of Tireragh, Sligo, have agreed, at a meeting held for the purpose, to call on the Government for a reduction of the police force, on the ground of the restored tranquillity of their district.

A harness-maker, named Niel, residing at Crest, France, murdered his wife, by discharging a loaded gun at her head. When he had committed the deed, he placed the gun on the body, and called for assistance, telling the first comers that his wife had laid hold of the gun to shoot him, and that in the struggle it had gone off, and lodged the contents in her head. The character of the man was, however, too well known for his story to obtain any credit, and he was arrested. He has since confessed his guilt.

Yesterday week a robbery was committed in the sleeping apartment of the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. T. Liddell, at Ravensworth Castle, and £100 in gold, two gold watches, and a number of brooches and rings, were stolen, the burglar's booty amounting in value to about £300.

Mr. Heald's death by drowning is contradicted. A telegraphic message has arrived stating that he was safe.

Mr. R. Coulthard, of Thistlewood, Cumberland, has two ewes that lately reared each two lambs; the same two have had eight lambs within the year.

The late gale served a good purpose at Troon. A clipper was on the blocks ready for launching. The tide rose a great height, from the violence of the storm, and flooded the clipper off the blocks. She was floated into the harbour, and there moored in perfect safety.

At Basle, in Switzerland, an unsuccessful attempt has been made to light the town with gas obtained from the carbonisation of wood.

The sentence of death on Kirwan, convicted of the murder of his wife, has been commuted into one of transportation for life.

The amount of damage inflicted by the recent gales in Dublin



THE VIADUCT OF THE PENZANCE RAILWAY, IN PART DESTROYED BY THE LATE GALE.

DESTRUCTIVE STORM AT PENZANCE.

THE terrific gale of last week reached Penzance and Mount's Bay, from S.S.W., or S.W., about ten o'clock on Sunday night, and continued till about three next morning.

Unfortunately it was the period of spring tides: hence the destruction of property was very great. During the gale the whole of the scaffolding and wood-work erected for the works for extending the southern arm of Penzance pier, were wholly swept away; and the scaffolding was drifted by the heavy sea with tremendous force against the wooden viaduct of the West Cornwall Railway, on the Eastern Green, just at the entrance of the town, and a considerable portion was destroyed (See the Illustration). On that part of the line still nearer to the town, a considerable portion of the sea wall which there protected the railway was thrown down, and about 180 feet of the viaduct was swept away, or so far mutilated as to require replacing. Such was the force of the waves that large blocks of granite of some thirty-two cubic feet, and weighing perhaps two tons, were lifted across the line, a distance of about a dozen feet.

After the accident, the trains arrived only as far as the Marazion station, and the usual omnibuses conveyed passengers to and from that station instead of Penzance.

Fortunately, there were not at the time of the gale a dozen vessels in the harbour, or the loss of property must have been very great. About half-past two o'clock, when the gale was at its height, the *Sophia* (Bosustow, master) parted all her fastenings and drove out of the pier; she lay for

an hour and a half between the old and new pier-head; and afterwards drifted out towards the Eastern Green, and went ashore between eight and nine o'clock. She had on board a cargo of guano, with which she arrived at Penzance about a fortnight ago from Patagonia. Other vessels lying in the old pier sustained damage. Such was the force with which the sea beat over into the pier, that massive pieces of granite lying there (not portions of the wall), weighing from two to four cwt., were washed off into the basin of the pier.

On the Western Green, also, the sea swept over upon the road, flooding a few houses on the right. Further on, portions of the wall which protected the road were destroyed.

WRECKS IN THE MERSEY.

ON the morning of Christmas-day, Liverpool was visited with a terrific hurricane, fully equal to that on the 9th of January, 1839; and although Sunday was tolerably calm, the storm was renewed on Monday morning with equal intensity. The gale commenced in Ireland, passed over the Channel, reached England soon after midnight on Saturday morning; and, gathering strength as it proceeded, accumulated into a hurricane by two o'clock A.M. At five it was most terrible, but it abated soon after six. This storm visited every part of the United Kingdom; but its more dreadful effects were felt along the coasts.

The damage done at the docks at Liverpool, on the river, and in the bay, has been considerable. The shipping in the docks, more especially

in those at the extreme north and south ends of the town, felt severely the force of the storm. In the morning, two vessels, the *Centurion* and the *Manilla*, came into collision in the river off the north docks. The *Manilla* was much damaged amidships, being cut down to the water's edge; she also lost her mainmast, and had her deck-house, &c., damaged. The bowsprit and cutwater of the *Centurion* were carried away, and she was otherwise disabled by the accident. Another serious collision took place on Sunday night in the river, between the brig *Margaret*, from Drogheda, and the *Constantine*, outward bound for New York. The *Margaret* had her maintopmast, bulwarks, and stanchions carried away: she was, subsequently to the accident, towed into the George's Dock Basin, and with some difficulty secured until the gale moderated. The *Constantine* escaped with comparatively trifling damage. The schooner *Mary Ann*, of Runcorn, lying in the river, parted from her anchors on Monday morning, and was abandoned. She was subsequently brought into the Coburg Dock by the crew of the steam-tug *Jockall*. The barque *Elizabeth*, from Liverpool, for Savannah, and the *Conway*, for New Orleans, were both wrecked; but the crews were saved. The *St. Catherine*, from Savannah to Liverpool, was driven on shore at Southport on Saturday morning: the crew were saved.

The accompanying Illustration is a view on the Mersey at one P.M. on Monday, looking to the north-east, and showing two of the above wrecks: the *Conway* is seen against the northern extremity of the new dock works; and the *Elizabeth* on the beach in Bootle Bay, with Bootle landmark, and the life-boat which took part of the crew from the *Conway*.



WRECKS IN THE MERSEY, AFTER THE LATE GALE.



"THE NEPTUNE" STEAMER HOVE TO, N.W. OFF FLEKKE FJORD, NORWAY.

THE STEAMER "NEPTUNE" OFF THE COAST OF NORWAY.

WE lately recorded the courage of a woman in volunteering her services, and urging some seamen to put off in a boat, at great risk, from the coast of Norway, to the assistance of a steam-ship in great peril. We are now in possession of the full details of this heroic act, and a Sketch of the locality, which we have engraved.

It appears that the steamer *Neptune*, Captain Brownless, on her outward voyage from London to St. Petersburg, encountered, when two-thirds across the North Sea, the terrific storms of the 26th, 27th, and 28th of November, which caused such fearful disasters on our east coast. At the height of the hurricane, about midnight of the 27th, the Naze of Norway was sighted. Finding the water becoming considerably smoother under the coast of Norway, Captain Brownless hauled closer in shore. The weather, however, continuing bad, he resolved upon going into Flekke Fiord for shelter; and, requiring a pilot for that purpose, the union-jack was shown at the fore. Some time elapsed, and it was feared no boat durst venture out, when attention was directed to a small object under the land, which soon after was observed to be a boat pulling down upon the vessel; and upon the boat nearing the ship, the astonishment of the Captain and people on board was greatly increased on observing that one of her crew was a woman! The first exclamation was "Grace Darling!" The deep sea lead line, being the handiest was thrown into the boat; our heroine passed the line twice round her body, hatched, or rather tied it, and then passing her right arm through the noose at the end of the line, ascended the ship like a sailor. The boat, which was of the commonest description, was half filled with water when she reached the steamer, and, of course, her little crew of

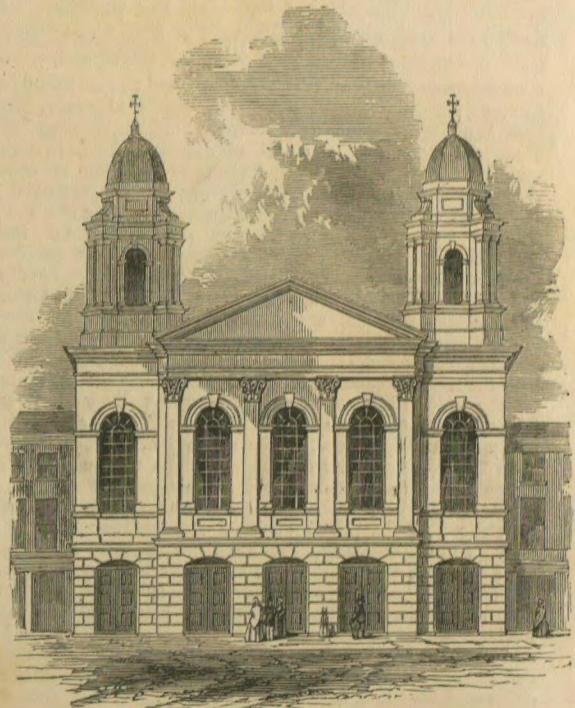
three were thoroughly drenched. By the Captain's orders the woman was provided with a change of clothing by the stewardess, until her own was dried. The romance of the thing was much increased by the beauty of the woman: not more than twenty-five or twenty-six years of age, a little above the middle stature, fair skin, good colour; beautiful, expressive, dark blue eyes; fine white teeth, and hair like flax, a feature peculiar to the women and children of Norway.

The visit to Flekke Fiord of so fine a steamer as the *Neptune* was quite an event for the little port, and great hospitality was shown to the passengers and crew. A little before the adventurous young woman left the ship, the seamen and firemen made a collection of about £3 among themselves for her; on learning which, the Captain solicited the passengers to contribute, and when the captain beckoned her to come and take the money, she stared with astonishment, probably having never before seen so much money; but, when assured that it was all for her, she dropped on one knee, clasped the Captain's hand in both of hers, and shedding tears of gratitude, kissed it repeatedly! After this she went round to the passengers and kissed their hands also, and subsequently she took her leave of the tars and firemen, who evinced a contempt for a mere cold shake of the hand, and aspired to an embrace with the lips: two or three of the better-looking of the sailors were successful, but not one of their more soiled brethren. As she descended the side, all hands, of their own accord, mustered at the gangway, and one, obtaining a more elevated position than the rest, thrust out from the vessel's side, and over the girl's head, a boat-hook, to which was attached a union-jack; and, as the boat shoved off, the crew and passengers simultaneously gave three deafening cheers, and continued waving handkerchiefs, &c., as long as the boat was in sight. We much regret that our Correspondent has not furnished us with the name of this successor of Grace Darling.

In the Illustration, the *Neptune* is shown hove to, five miles north-west of Flekke Fiord, at the moment of the vessel being boarded, in the height of a N.E. gale. The coast of Norway here is extremely grand; the rocks rise perpendicularly 3000 feet out of the water, under which they have an equal depth. On the morning of the incident represented, the cliffs were capped with snow.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, MARYLEBONE.

ON Saturday, the handsome new church of St. Matthew, which has recently been erected in Great Carlisle-street, near Portman-market, St. Marylebone, was consecrated by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London, assisted by a number of the metropolitan clergy, in the presence



NEW CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, MARYLEBONE.

of a numerous congregation. The church has been built by private subscription, for the purpose of relieving the spiritual destitution of a very populous and miserably poor district of London, where the necessity for increased church accommodation has long been felt.

The church is an elegant and commodious structure; the carcase was originally intended for a theatre, but was purchased by the Church Building Commissioners, who conveyed it to a body of trustees; and a committee of gentlemen was formed to raise the necessary funds to complete the design. The execution of the work reflects great credit on the architects, the Messrs. Francis. The elevation, which fronts Portman-market, has been entirely remodelled in the classic style, two cupolas being added, one on each side of the pediment. The front is lighted by five large windows, and the building has three entrances. Above the altar-screen is a handsome stained-glass window. The difficulty experienced in obtaining light, from the church being closely surrounded with buildings, rendered it necessary to perforate the ceiling with skylights. The edifice is calculated to accommodate 1600 worshippers, and of the total number of sittings, 1200 will be free and exclusively appropriated to the poor; while the remaining 400 are proposed to be let at a moderate rental. The cost of construction has been £3000, the ground £1100 more, the endowment and repair fund £1300; making altogether, with other minor expenses, a total cost of nearly £6000. The sum already subscribed is also £6000; but as the amount collected towards the endowment fund is only £1000, or merely the minimum sum required by law to be raised previous to the ceremony of consecration, it is highly desirable that this fund should be increased. The Rev. Dr. Spencer, formerly curate at Whitechapel, has been appointed to the incumbency.

Among the clergy present at the consecration were the Rev. Mr.



LARGE ELM TORN UP BY THE LATE HURRICANE, AT MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Wharton, Rev. Dr. Butler, Rev. E. Speck, Rev. Mr. Beccles, Rev. Charles Baring, Rev. George Fisk, Rev. J. Hillmer, Rev. Hugh Allen, Rev. H. Davis, &c. Sir Charles Goring and Mr. C. J. Bevan (one of the trustees) were also in attendance.

The Bishop, with his chaplains, was received at the door of the church by the Chancellor, the registrar, the minister, and trustees, and conducted by them to the vestry-room. Having proceeded in his robes to the front of the communion table (on which the vessels for the Holy Communion were placed), the minister presented to his Lordship the petition praying him to consecrate the church, together with the deed of endowment, which the Bishop delivered to the registrar, to be by him read aloud. The Bishop, with his chaplains and the clergy, then walked in procession from the east to the west end of the church, repeating alternately the 24th Psalm. The ceremony then proceeded according to the usual form. The Chancellor read aloud the sentence of consecration, which the Bishop signed, and commanded, together with the petition and the deeds, to be recorded in the registry. The service of the day was then read by the Rev. Dr. Spencer. The Lord Bishop afterwards preached an appropriate and impressive sermon, taking for his text the 5th verse of the 11th chapter of Matthew—"The poor have the Gospel preached to them."

The impressive and interesting services of the day were closed with the apostolical benediction, after which a liberal collection was made.

HURRICANE AT OXFORD.

THE great storm of last week, whose devastations by sea are pictured upon page 20, reached the fine old city of Oxford on the night of Sunday, and reached its greatest height at seven o'clock on Monday morning, when the wind blew a violent hurricane. In the northern portion of the city its effects were most seriously felt. At the workhouse a large stack of chimneys was blown down, and, falling through the roof and ceiling of the old women's ward, killed a poor woman who was sitting by the fire. In the Observatory a noble cedar was blown down; much damage was done to the roof of the Infirmary, and the University Press. Several of the other public buildings were injured. At All Soul's College, one of the pinnacles was blown from the top of the dining-hall, and broke through the roof; and from that of Merton College, much of the lead was ripped off. In Christ Church, Broad-walk, four of the large elm trees were blown down, as well as several others in the meadows; but a more remarkable devastation occurred at Magdalen College, where a large elm tree, near the new gateway, was torn up by the roots, and in its fall destroyed a portion of the ornamental work, and considerably injured the arched entrance, which leads to the back of the President's lodgings. The accompanying illustration shows the fallen tree.

A chimney-stack at the President's lodgings was also blown down, and broke through the roof. In the College-walks, and especially in Addison's-walk, limbs of trees were torn off by the violence of the wind; and in St. Thomas's parish, three large poplars were blown down.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 9.—First Sunday after Epiphany. Laud beheaded, 1645.
MONDAY, 16.—Plough Monday. Royal Exchange burnt, 1838.
TUESDAY, 11.—Hilary Term begins.
WEDNESDAY, 12.—Sheffield riots, 1840.
THURSDAY, 13.—Old New Year's Day. Cambridge term begins.
FRIDAY, 14.—Oxford Term begins.
SATURDAY, 15.—Queen Elizabeth crowned at Westminster, 1559.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 15.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M	A	M	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1 22	1 50	2 15	2 40	3 5	3 25	3 50
				4 10	4 30	4 50
				5 10	5 30	5 50
				6 10		

THE WELLINGTON VOLUME OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS is now ready. Price One Guinea. From July 3rd to December 25th, 1852. Containing all the SPLENDID ILLUSTRATIONS of the CAREER and FUNERAL of the late DUKE of WELLINGTON, &c. COVERS FOR BINDING the VOLUMES, 2s. 6d. each. Office, 198, Strand.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1853.

THE new year has opened auspiciously for the country and for the Ministry. The policy of Free-trade still vindicates, by its results, the great expectations formed of it by those "foremost men" of our time, who imposed it upon a willing nation, though upon reluctant statesmen. The quarterly and annual returns of the national revenue, published on the 5th of January, show a great and most satisfactory increase. The revenue of the quarter, ending upon the 5th of January, 1853, exceeds the revenue for the quarter ending upon the 5th of January, 1852, by £557,759; while the revenue for the financial year, ending on Wednesday last, exceeds the revenue for the year previous by no less a sum than £702,776. All this, it must be remembered, is contemporaneous with a reduction of taxation in several important items, more especially the Window and Stamp-duties. We need not enter into the further details of this official document, a full abstract of which will be found in another column. It is sufficient to notify the broad fact which it represents—a fact large enough to satisfy all reasonable men, that the recent financial and commercial policy of this country is sound; and to encourage the confident hope that a still further development of that policy will be attended with results equally beneficial. The removal of commercial restrictions has already so greatly increased the national wealth and the public contentment; and tended so obviously to strengthen our alliances with the principal nations of the world; and the matured convictions of the people of Great Britain have been, and are daily, so emphatically expressed in favour of Free-trade as a system, that, so far from expecting any retrogression on the part of our own statesmen, it is highly probable that our example will convert that portion of the civilised world, which still clings to the doctrine of Protection. France and America are both gradually moving in the same direction, and when they are thoroughly convinced of the truth of the principles of Free-trade, it is likely that the peace and prosperity of the world will stand on a firmer basis than ever they stood before in any recorded period of modern or ancient history.

CONSIDERABLE discussion has lately taken place on the subject of Life Assurance. Its importance justifies the interest it has excited. When the citizens of ancient Rome, eager to acquire wealth without labour, expended large sums in building temples to Fortune, Juvenal advised them to follow the dictates of Prudence, and abandon the worship of the fickle deity. In our days, Prudence is the parent of Life Assurance; and yet it appears that only 240,000 persons out of our immense population have taken advantage of the principle. No single circumstance has operated more injuriously to the extended success of these institutions than the disputable character of policies. It is, indeed, a fearful battle for parties with moderate means to fight in a court of law against a public company. The vital principle of a policy of insurance is, that all its conditions shall be carried into effect for the benefit of the insured. Upon this principle, both the insurer and the insured are presumed to contract, and the sacredness of the contract ought to be positively guarded against violation by any strained interpretation of technical terms.

During the last few years a new and dangerous doctrine has been established. Formerly, it was deemed essential to safety that an office should start with a large subscribed capital; now it is contended, the preliminary expenses of establishment being de-

frayed, there is no necessity for any capital, as the premiums of the living are sufficient to pay the policies of those dying in the course of the year; and this opinion is entertained by several eminent mathematicians.

If an office commences business with young lives who, on fair calculations, may survive as a body for twenty-five or thirty years, of course the receipts will far exceed the payments, and the premiums will form a capital sufficient to meet the demands which must arise when the insured die off simultaneously; but, for the continuous stability of such an office, new lives must be constantly added, and this may perhaps be expected if the institutions maintain a respectable character. But a contingency may arise which has been overlooked. The capital of these companies is generally invested in the Funds, and much depends on the rate at which they are invested. For instance, during the war the Equitable was enabled to purchase Consols between 50 and 60, so that the rise to 100 nearly doubled its capital; but the companies formed during recent years have paid on an average from 85 to 95 for Consols, and if another war were again to throw down Consols to 60 or 50, the loss on their capitals would be immense. Safety, therefore, in the future is exposed to great contingencies, nor can we close our eyes to the fall in the rates of interest, owing to the influx of gold and the very probable conversion at some future period of Consols into a Two-and-Three-Quarter per Cent Stock.

The stability of those companies which do not possess a large subscribed capital is liable to be suspected, from the very loose and unsatisfactory manner in which their balance-sheets are prepared. They place on one side their outgoings, and on the other side the premiums received, and the excess of the latter above the former is accounted a net balance of profit; but this is very fallacious, since no provision is made for policy risks. These liabilities are entirely kept out of view; but they are real, and though, on the doctrine of chances, they may be remote, yet it is possible they may be immediate. A visitation of cholera, for example, might suddenly arise and sweep away the insured in a new office within a year or two after its establishment, when the reputed balance of net profit would vanish, and insolvency would follow. Certainly this is an extreme case, but prudence guards against all contingencies. At any rate, all balance-sheets should be free from sophistry: in them nothing should be suppressed, and especially no credits should be displayed as absolute when exposed to encumbrance, or reduction even, by remote liabilities.

In all great mercantile institutions, which demand a general support from the public, publicity is the chief conservator of confidence. On this principle the Bank of England is required to publish in the *Gazette* a weekly return of its assets and debts. We are convinced that those life insurance companies who should imitate this rule, not perhaps weekly, but annually, would promote their own interests. The sums for which they are responsible in the aggregate are said to amount to one hundred and fifty millions, equal to one-fifth of the National Debt. This is a gigantic trust to be reposed in any body of men, free from Parliamentary control. We have great faith in the honour and judgment of the directors and actuaries of these institutions, but we are convinced that if all policies were declared indisputable, and periodical statements were published of assets and liabilities, showing in what those assets consisted, it would be better for the companies, and better for the public.

THE REVENUE.

The returns of the quarter's revenue, made up to the 5th inst., will, we are sure, be universally regarded as the most gratifying for many years past. On both the year and the quarter there is a great increase, as compared with the corresponding year and quarter of 1852. On the year, the increase is £978,926; and on the quarter, £702,776. Under two heads only is there any falling off on the quarter, and in both cases the deficit is so inconsiderable as to be scarcely worthy of mention. The two heads are the Customs and the Excise. The decrease under the former is £18,128, and the latter, £13,324; but on the year we find an increase in the Excise of £263,811. The Stamps are more productive, by £187,544, than during the corresponding quarter of last year; whilst the Taxes show an augmentation of no less than £233,951. Even the Property-tax brings in an additional £100,282 to the quarter's revenue, as compared with the amount received in the quarter ending January 5th, 1852; on the year the increase is £204,714.

The increase and decrease will be best seen by the following details:—

INCREASE.		
Stamps	..	..
Taxes ..	..	..
Property-tax ..	..	..
Post-office ..	..	..
Crown Lands ..	..	..
Miscellaneous ..	..	..
Total, ordinary Revenue ..	..	589,211
Imprest and other Moneys ..	..	£25,393
Repayments of Advances ..	..	119,624
Total Revenue ..	..	£741,228
DECREASE.		
Customs ..	..	£18,128
Excise ..	..	13,324
Increase of the Quarter ..	..	£702,776

On comparing the returns for the year ended Wednesday with those for 1851, we shall find a still more favourable result. There is a small apparent decrease of £65,687 in the Customs; but it is more than sufficiently explained by several reductions of duty which have taken place. In the Excise there is a large augmentation, of £263,811—a fact which shows the augmented means of consumption possessed by the working classes. The Stamps display an increase of £353,712; and the whole of this accession may be ascribed to the extension of trading transactions. In the Property-tax there is an increase, on the year's returns, of £204,714; in the Crown Lands, of £110,000; in the Miscellaneous, of £121,488; and in the Repayments of Advances, of £228,324. On the other hand, we find a decrease of £186,199 on the taxes for the year, which may be accounted for by the delays in collecting the new House-tax; and the Post-office exhibits a decrease of £42,000, which is doubtless attributable to the unusual excess in the year of the Exhibition. The general result of a comparison of the Revenue for the year ended 5th January, 1852, with the year ended 5th January, 1853, is that the latter exceeds the former by £978,926.

Whether, therefore, we examine the returns for the quarter or for the year, we find abundant evidence of a high state of financial prosperity, of the comfort and well-being of the industrious classes, and of the continued and advancing success of the system of commercial policy commenced in 1846.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

CAMBRIDGE, JAN. 4.—The decree of LL.D., by Royal mandate has been conferred in Convocation on Mr. Geldart, Master of Trinity Hall. The Rev. M. B. Cowie, of St. John's College, has been elected Hulsean Lecturer for 1853. The Hulsean prize for the best English dissertation has been adjudged to Mr. W. Jay Bolton, of Caius College—subject "The Evidences of Christianity as exhibited in the writings of its apostolists down to Augustine, inclusively."

The Bishop of Meath has appointed Archdeacon Stopford and the Rev. Ralph B. Baker his Lordship's examining chaplains.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following have received testimonials of respect and esteem.—The Rev. J. G. Childs, from the parishioners of St. Dennis, Hatfield; the Rev. C. W. Ord, M.A., from the teachers and friends of Christ Church schools, Macclesfield, upon his leaving that neighbourhood.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The following have recently taken place:—*Rectories*: The Rev. S. T. Preston, M.A., to Little Brandon, Wymondham; the Rev. E. C. Adams, B.A., to Hawkchurch, Dorsetshire; the Rev. E. Sparke, to Tuddenham, St. Mary; the Rev. W. Menzies, M.A., to Winnal, Hampshire; the Rev. T. Bacon, to Kingsworthy, Hants, *Vicarage*: The Rev. W. C. Moxon, M.A., to Elmsham, Glastonbury-bridge. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. H. H. Price, M.A., to Ash, Shropshire; the Rev. M. Hetherington, B.A., to Mungredale, Penrith; the Rev. E. B. Webster, B.A., to Bassenthwaite, Keswick; the Rev. T. Biddy, to Norton, Gloucestershire.

THE COURT.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

The opening of the New Year was celebrated by her Majesty on Saturday last, by a grand musical entertainment, given for the first time in St. George's-hall. On that day there dined at the Royal table her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, his Serene Highness the Prince of Leinigen, her Serene Highness the Princess Adelheid of Hohenlohe, the Lady in Waiting to the Duchess of Kent, the Baroness de Speth; and Captain and the Hon. Mrs. Tottenham. In the evening the party was increased to about fifty, chiefly residents of the neighbourhood of Windsor, invited to be present at the concert. A rising orchestra, handsomely and appropriately decorated, was constructed at the east end of St. George's-hall, which was crowned by the new and powerful organ recently erected there by Mr. Hill. The orchestra, consisting of upwards of 100 performers, was conducted by Mr. Anderson, the director of her Majesty's private band. Mr. Cusins, organist of her Majesty's private chapel, presided at the organ. The first part of the concert consisted of the "Lobgesang" (Hymn of Praise). The second part comprised the published portions of the unfinished oratorio "Christus," and a scene from "Loreley."

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert attended an early service, in the private chapel of the Castle, and partook of the Sacrament of the Holy Communion, administered by the Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley.

On Monday the Duke of Wellington had an audience of the Queen to deliver up the Garter worn by the late Duke. The Earl of Bessborough, the Earl of Mulgrave, and the Right Hon. Edward Strutt kissed hands, on their appointment to the offices of Master of the Buckhounds, Comptroller of the Household, and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. On the same day, Sir George Hayter had the honour of submitting his picture of the late Duke of Wellington visiting the effigy and relics of Napoleon, to the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

A Privy Council was held at the Castle on Tuesday. The Most Noble George Duke of Argyll, and the Right Hon. John Viscount Sydney, were, by command of the Queen, sworn of her Majesty's most honourable Privy Council, and took their seats at the board. Her Majesty, in Council, was pleased to declare the Right Hon. Edward Earl of St. Germans Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. The most noble George Duke of Argyll was sworn in Lord Privy Seal. The Duke of Norfolk had an audience of the Queen, and kissed hands on receiving the wand of office as Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household. In the evening her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with the Prince of Leinigen, drank tea with her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent at Frogmore.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary arrived at the Castle, on a visit to her Majesty and the Prince Consort, on Wednesday evening.

The Belgian Minister and Madame Van de Weyer, and Viscount and Viscountess Hardinge have been also among her Majesty's guests during the week.

The Countess of Charlemont has succeeded the Marchioness of Ely as Lady in Waiting to the Queen; and Lieut.-General Sir Frederick Stovin has relieved Major-General B. Drummond as Groom in Waiting. Lord Charles Fitzroy has succeeded Colonel the Hon. Charles Grey as Equerry in Waiting to the Queen. Colonel Bouvier has been relieved by Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Seymour in the duties of Equerry in Waiting to his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

The Duke and Duchess of Hamilton and their youthful family have left St. James's-place, for Paris.

The Marquis of Lansdowne has left town, for his seat, Bowood Park, Wilts.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

A movement, likely to be attended with success, is now making among the shareholders of the Ambergate Railway to amalgamate with the London and North-Western Railway. The shareholders already sending their assets are so numerous, that a large majority is expected to declare in favour of the movement.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—AMERSHAM BRANCH.—A very crowded meeting of landowners, lessees, occupiers, and other persons interested in supporting a proposed railway from the Watford station of the London and North-Western Railway, through Rickmansworth, Chorleywood, Cheneys, and Chalfont St. Giles, to Amersham, in the county of Buckingham, was held on Wednesday at the Swan Inn, Rickmansworth. The chair was taken by the Hon. C. C. Cavendish, M.P., who was supported by the Hon. and Rev. Lord Wriothesley Russell, the Rev. Edward Hodgson, the Rev. William Moore Brabazon; Messrs. H. W. Woolrych, William Simpson, Francis Blake, H. Ingram, William Weller, M. Curtis, J. Ayres, and other landowners and occupiers. The chairman briefly opened the business, and stated he was happy to see so numerous and respectable an assembly before him; but he regretted they were deprived of the presence of one or two friends, whose assistance he felt would be of the greatest value to them—though that absence was not caused by any want of approval of the undertaking. He had received a letter from Lord Robert Grosvenor (who was represented at the meeting by his steward, Mr. Elliott), regretting that a previous engagement would prevent his being present on that occasion, and Sir John Kirkland had also written, apologising for being unable to attend. He had also to apologise for the non-attendance of their friend Mr. Lowndes, who would have been present, had he not been unfortunately compelled to attend the sessions at Aylesbury; as well as for that of Mr. Fuller, who was also unavoidably prevented being present. He felt that the proposed railway must prove

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JANUARY 6.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Tempe- rature of the Day.	Departure of Tempera- ture from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Jan. 1	30.049	52°0	42°1	48°0	+ 11°5	85	S.W.	0.00
" 2	29.823	52°1	47°2	49°5	+ 12°2	96	S.W.	0.00
" 3	29.677	49°1	36°8	44°3	+ 8°3	85	S.W.	0.20
" 4	29.647	52°3	34°5	45°3	+ 9°6	85	S.W.	0.01
" 5	29.634	52°0	41°0	45°3	+ 9°8	84	S.S.W.	0.06
" 6	29.635	50°5	35°8	42°1	+ 6°9	90	S.W.	0.40

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The mean temperature of the week ending January 6, was 46°2, which is 10°2 above the average of the same week for thirty-eight years. An inspection of the table will show that the mean daily temperature was above the average on every day. It was highest on the 2nd, which was 49°5.

The weather has been equally and variable. Rain fell in the week to the depth of 0.67 inch.

Lewisham, Jan. 7.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The temperature during the month of December was remarkably high; the number of deaths in the five weeks ending last Saturday, were 1042, 1012, 1041, 871, and 1008 respectively; the last number, however, is influenced by many coroner's cases, which occurred in the quarter, and not previously reported. The present state of the public health is satisfactory. On the week ending Saturday, January 1st, 1911 children were born within the metropolitan districts, of which 987 were boys, and 924 were girls. In the corresponding weeks of the previous eight years the average number was 1522.

THE GUILDFALL LIBRARY.—It is with pleasure we announce a considerate and proper act now on the eve of accomplishment by the citizens of London. Many of our readers are doubtless aware that this great city possesses a most curious library relating to London matters—that it is annually adding to its stores—and that it is in the possession of a fund fully adequate to the acquisition of fresh curiosities. This library has lately attracted the attention of the present chairman of the committee (Mr. William Williams); and the result has been, that cards of admission have been—or rather, are now on the eve of being sent—to every author of distinction whose habits of research are at all likely to render the collection of use to him. A new printed catalogue of the library will, as soon as completed, accompany every ticket—so that an author may consult the catalogue in his own room, and wait on the librarian with his ticket, and see at once what he wishes to see.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.—A deputation of the electors of the city of London has waited on Lord John Russell, at the Foreign-office, to present to him a memorial on the subject of the "Taxes on Knowledge," agreed to at a meeting held at the Guildhall Coffee-house. The deputation consisted of Mr. Bennoch, Mr. Ashurst, Mr. J. Stewart, Mr. J. Bennett, and Mr. A. Novello. Mr. Bennoch said that the deputation had waited on his Lordship to present to him an address on the subject of the taxes on knowledge. He would find appended to the document to which he was about to call his attention the names of many leading men in the city of London, who were interested in the education of the people. Mr. Bennoch then read the memorial. Some documents were then handed in to Lord John Russell's secretary, who was in attendance. Lord John Russell said: "I will bear the subject in mind; I cannot say more now. You are aware that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to consider various taxes." The deputation then retired.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.—Notice was posted on Monday, at the General Post-office, that the *Adelaide*, Royal Mail Steam-packet, which had been detained at Plymouth since the 3rd ult. (with the mails of the 2nd), in consequence of some accident to her machinery, finally took her departure on Sunday last, the 2nd inst., with the London mails, for the Cape of Good Hope, Southern and Western Australia, Victoria, Sydney, New South Wales, and Van Diemen's Land, of Saturday, the 1st inst.

EASTERN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.—An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company was held on Monday, at the London Tavern, the business being confined to the election of a director, instead of Henry Davidson, Esq. Charles Geach, Esq. M.P., was unanimously elected.

STEAM TO AUSTRALIA.—The *Harbinger*, next month, will commence the General Screw Company's line to the antipodes, to be followed up by other vessels of heavy tonnage and good power. Those already named are the *Cresus*, *Jason*, and *Golden Fleece*.

BALLAST-HEAVERS' OFFICE.—This office, which has been established to enable the ballast-heavers and their employers to make their contracts direct with one another, and thus to remedy the notorious evil the ballast-heavers are suffering from the middle-man and truck-drinking system, was opened on Wednesday last.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB.—The usual monthly meeting took place on Wednesday night, at the Bedford Hotel; Capt. Wheeler in the chair. From the financial statement it appeared that upwards of £4300 remains in the hands of the club. It was arranged that the annual club ball should be held on the 15th of February, at the Hanover-square Rooms.

SCOTTISH HOSPITAL.—The usual general quarterly meeting of this corporation was held on Wednesday, in the board-room, Crane-court, Fleet-street. The secretary reported that the total number of persons relieved during the past year had been 4158, at an expense of £2138. The subscriptions had amounted to £2600; and, when all expenses had been defrayed, they had a balance in hand of £167.

LAMB AND FLAG RAGGED SCHOOL, CLERKENWELL.—About 420 children were amply regaled on Wednesday last at the school rooms with 250lb of beef, 400lb of potatoes, and 250lb of plum-pudding. In the evening, they were amused with a series of dissolving views; and a suitable address having been delivered by the Rev. Mr. Wild, the children were dismissed, having spent a most delightful and happy day.

THE MORNING MAILS FOR 1853.—On Wednesday, an official corrected list of post towns to which letters and newspapers can be forwarded by the morning as well as evening mails was issued at the General Post-office, by order of the new Postmaster-General. This list comprises upwards of 240 post towns, which now have the benefit of two deliveries daily; of letters and newspapers, indeed, it may be said that every place of any note, throughout the kingdom, enjoys the advantage of two deliveries, in consequence of the great facilities now afforded by the railways. The mails for Ireland are made up thrice daily—morning, afternoon, and evening (except Sundays). Glasgow, Edinburgh, &c., the same. For France and countries through France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Holland, Hamburg, Prussia, the whole of Germany, Austria, Russia, Turkey, &c. &c., the mails are likewise made up, morning and evening, daily (except Sundays), *via* Dover and Calais. In addition to the mails, express can be sent off at all times, by the Electric Telegraphic Company.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

An interregnum in the steeple-chase season confines the public field sports for the week, to coursing, of which we find five meetings in the register, none of them, we may add, possessing other than local interest; viz., Tuesday, Hawkstone (Salop), Singleton (Yorkshire), and Penrhyn; Wednesday, Angus and Mearns (Forfarshire); and Thursday, Clifton (Notts).

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—A moderate attendance, but more business than for several weeks past. Our quotations, therefore, touch upon a variety of events, and promise well for the book-makers as the season advances:

METROPOLITAN HANDICAP.		LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.		DERBY.	
20 to 1 agst Galvanism (t)	25 to 1 agst Hatchet (t)	28 to 1 agst Grapeshot (t)			
20 to 1 — Richmond (t)	25 to 1 — Hirsute (t)	30 to 1 — Contentment			
30 to 1 agst Wedlock filly					
50 to 1 agst Lady Evelyn	50 to 1 agst Muscovite				
50 to 1 — Indian Warrior	50 to 1 — Scarecrow				
1000 to 10 agst Little Jack					
16 to 1 agst Miss Mowbray	16 to 1 agst Knight of Gwynne (t)	40 to 1 agst Mary Machrew			
16 to 1 — Sir Peter Laurie	25 to 1 — Lord George	100 to 6 — Bourton			
14 to 1 agst West Australian	18 to 1 agst Orestes (t)	50 to 1 agst Orinoco (t)			
(1)	18 to 1 — The River	50 to 1 — Lord Faunceberg			
16 to 1 — Cinclus (t)	20 to 1 — Sittingbourne (t)	100 to 15 — Honeywood			
16 to 1 — Pharos (t)	40 to 1 — Rataplan (t)				
17 to 1 — Umbriel (t)	50 to 1 — Barbatus (t)				

THURSDAY.—A thin room and scarcely anything doing. The following were the quotations:

METROPOLITAN STAKES.

17 to 1 agst Richmond	25 to 1 agst Grapeshot
20 to 1 — Galvanism	30 to 1 — Lampedo
16 to 1 agst Cinclus	25 to 1 agst Hurworth
17 to 1 — Umbriel (t)	40 to 1 agst Barbatus

ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC TO APSLEY-HOUSE.

After an interval of mourning consecrated to the memory of the illustrious dead, the present Duke of Wellington has thrown open Apsley-house, under suitable regulations, for the inspection of the public. We may recognise in this noble act of liberality the generous and grateful emotions inspired in the hearts of the late Duke's family by the recent national manifestation, of which their venerated parent was the object. The public will highly appreciate the spontaneous kindness which permits them to view so many priceless gems of art, and to enter walls hallowed by so many tender and elevating associations. At no time could the historical treasures of Apsley-house be regarded without feelings of the deepest interest and delight. The memorials of his exploits, the princely rewards which were so lavishly showered upon him, and the evidences of his exquisite tastes and simple habits, which meet the eye in every apartment, will always render the Duke's town mansion one of the most interesting spots of English ground; but they would have wanted their chief and most touching charm but for the filial piety and reverential feeling of the noble successor to the titles and honours of the House of Wellington. The Duke's private room and the Duke's bed-room remain precisely as they were when last used by the Great Captain. No rash hand has made the slightest alteration in the arrangement of his books, his papers, or his pictures. Thus every step is full of memories of the Great Duke. The walls are vocal with his name, and his spirit still fills the place. His son is content to be the trustee of his father's fame; and every one will see in this self-denial a pious and graceful act of filial duty.

A private view of the apartments in Apsley-house, about to be thrown open to the public, took place on Thursday. Great curiosity existed to see the works of art and trophies which were known to decorate the mansion, for the collection was always kept strictly private by the late Duke, and permission to view the interior was an especial favour rarely granted to any except his Grace's personal friends.

Entering the court-yard, the visitor is conducted into the entrance-hall, to the right of which is the waiting-room, containing busts of the late Duke, by Steele of Edinburgh; William Pitt, Lord Castlereagh, Mr. Perceval, Colonel Gurwood, &c.; then, passing to the foot of the principal staircase, he finds himself in front of Canova's colossal marble statue of Napoleon. The face is that of a demigod, and breathes an awful beauty. The figure is undraped, and holds a winged Victory upon a globe in the right hand. The globe has been thought too small for the figure, a piece of criticism which we should not repeat here but for a felicitous remark of the sculptor. The Marquis of Bristol, who admired the statue exceedingly when he first saw it in Canova's studio, having, nevertheless, urged this objection, the sculptor said: "Vous pensez bien, my Lord, que la Grande Bretagne n'y est pas comprise." After the battle of Waterloo, and the entrance of the allied armies into Paris, this statue was regarded as a trophy of war, and was presented by the sovereigns of Europe to the illustrious hero, in whose mansion it will, we trust, remain an heirloom to the remotest posterity.

The staircase conducts the visitor to the Piccadilly Drawing-room, in which there are several admirable paintings, deserving of a closer inspection than can be obtained from the narrow gangway which leads to the next apartment. In this Drawing-room is Wilkie's "Chelsea Pensioners reading the *Gazette* of the Battle of Waterloo," a well-known picture, full of life, animation, and character. The Duke took the utmost interest in the composition, arrangement, and painting of this picture, for which he paid Wilkie 1200 guineas. On the other side of the door is Burnet's companion picture, "Greenwich Pensioners celebrating the Battle of Trafalgar," a work, likewise, of great merit. Another picture which the late Duke greatly admired, "Van Amburgh in the Cage with the Wild Beasts," by Sir Edwin Landseer, has also a prominent place here, and evinces the wonderful skill of this painter in delineating the physiognomical expression proper to the King of Beasts and his savage companions. A Portrait of John Duke of Marlborough, at the other end of the room, is too far distant from the visitor to be properly seen, and the same may be said of a magical "Interior," by De Hooge, which graced the walls of the British Institution three or four years ago; and of many other cabinet specimens of the Dutch school.

The Drawing-room is the next apartment, over the door of which is a life-like portrait of the Duke's great adversary in arms, Marshal Soult, and a fine portrait of Pope Pius VII. This room also contains the original painting of the "Melton Hunt," by Francis Grant, R.A.; and the copies, by M. Bonnemaison, of the four celebrated pictures by Raphael belonging to the Spanish Government. The subjects are known by the titles of "The Pearl," "The Visitation," "La Madonna del Pesce," and "The Spasimo." These admirable copies were obtained by his Grace after the battle of Waterloo. Some artists have a rare faculty for copying and reproducing the characteristics of great masters; and many of our readers, as they look upon these repetitions of the works of the Prince of Painters, will ask themselves why the new National Gallery should not have a wing destined to contain the best copies that money can procure of all the *chef d'œuvre* of the greatest ancient and modern artists, for the instruction and delight of those who are unable to make a long and costly pilgrimage to see the originals. In this room stand a pair of Sévres porcelain vases, presented to the Duke by Louis XVIII.

We now enter a magnificent saloon—the Grand Picture Gallery—which occupies the entire western side of the mansion. This gorgeous apartment is memorable as the scene of the annual Waterloo Banquets, at which his Grace entertained the surviving General Officers of the actions of the 16th, 17th, and 18th of June, 1815—the invitation having been extended to Prince Albert since his marriage. The walls of the Grand Gallery are hung with rare and costly pictures, by the first masters. The late Duke's collection has always been considered more choice than extensive, but there are sufficient paintings in this saloon to fill at least another gallery of equal size. For want of sufficient space, cabinet pictures, by the Flemish and Dutch masters, are hung up so far above the line, that it is impossible to see their beauties, or, indeed, to offer any opinion upon their merits.

The first glance around this noble saloon is bewildering, from the number and richness of the collection. Several of them have a twofold interest connected with them, and bear testimony not only to the genius of the artist, but to the value of the departed hero. Some of the gems of the collection, for example, were presented to the late Duke by the King of Spain, after their recovery from the baggage of Joseph Bonaparte, captured at Vittoria. The most valuable picture in the entire collection is "Christ's Agony in the Garden," by Correggio. It is a small painting on panel, of wonderful beauty, but it is unfavourably hung, and the spectator is prevented by an envious barricade from approaching it. This picture was for a long time in the Royal Palace, Madrid; and has always been considered a *chef d'œuvre* of the artist. Another remarkable picture is the "Water-seller," by Velasquez, also from the Royal collection at Madrid; besides the painter's own portrait, and a portrait of Pope Innocent X. These works of an artist little known in this country will be regarded with peculiar interest by our connoisseurs. The Grand Gallery is also rich in the works of the Dutch school, in the selection of which the late Duke displayed infinite taste. Teniers, Jan Steen, Van Ostade, Van der Heyden, Wouwerman, de Hooge, &c., contribute some of their best pictures. At one end of the room (where you enter) is a small "Annunciation," a composition of Michael Angelo; just above, on the right, is a copy of Raphael's celebrated "Madonna della Seggiola," by his greatest pupil, Giulio Romano. On each side of the "Annunciation" hangs a small Claude. In the centre of the room, over the fireplace, is the well-known picture by Vandyke, of "Charles I. on Horseback." The air of resigned melancholy in the features, amounting to a presentiment, speaks of a gentle and loving nature rendered false by maxims of kingship. This picture exercises a fascination over the spectator, from which it is not easy to escape. Two or three Murillos, and as many Titians of surpassing beauty, swell, but by no means exhaust, the list of great artists. Parmegiano, Leonardo da Vinci, Pellegrini, Bockhuyzen, Terburg, Caravaggio, Spagnoletto, and Salvator Rosa are represented by pictures in different styles, but of high, and sometimes supreme, merit.

Two huge candelabra of Russian porphyry, in the middle of the saloon, were presented to the late Duke by the Emperor Nicholas. At the side of the apartment are two vases of Swedish porphyry, the gift of the King of Sweden.

Having with difficulty torn himself from the Picture Gallery, with its richly-gilded cornices and ornamentation in the style of Louis Quatorze, and taking one last look at the Duke's place at the Waterloo Banquet (exactly opposite the fire-place), the visitor finds himself in the



ANNUAL CHAPTER OF THE ORDER OF DON CARLOS III, AT MADRID, IN THE PRESENCE OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF SPAIN.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

THE NEW MINISTRY.—THE CABINET.



LORD JOHN RUSSELL, Foreign Secretary.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, Colonial Secretary.

SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH, BART., First Commissioner of Public Works.

MR. GLADSTONE, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

EARL GRANVILLE, President of the Council.

EARL OF ABERDEEN, First Lord of the Treasury.

LORD CRANWORTH, Lord High Chancellor.

(See next page.)

VISCOUNT PALMERSTON, Home Secretary.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM, BART., First Lord of the Admiralty.

SIR CHARLES WOOD, BART., President of the Board of Control.

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT, Secretary-at War.

THE NEW CABINET MINISTERS.—BIOGRAPHICAL OUTLINES.

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.

We have so recently given an elaborate memoir of the new Premier, that it is unnecessary here to do more than refer our readers to our last week's publication.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE.

Of the Marquis of Lansdowne, also, we recently gave a long memoir. Early last year his Lordship, who for some years had acted as leader of the Whigs in the Upper House, intimated his intention to withdraw from active political life. From this comparative seclusion he was drawn on the resignation of Lord Derby, by a command from her Majesty. Having determined in co-operating with Lord Aberdeen in the formation of a strong Administration, he yet declined to take office, but accepted a seat in the Cabinet, as the Duke of Wellington had done before him, whom he resembles in the influence which his age and experience give him in the councils of his party, and in the House of Lords. Lord Lansdowne has ever been the advocate of Liberal principles, and never more earnestly than when that advocacy involved an exclusion from power. He is also a warm and steady patron of literature. A portrait of his Lordship appeared in No. 552 of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* (April 3rd, 1852).

LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

Lord John Russell entered public life in 1814, in July of which year he delivered his maiden speech. At a very early period in his political career he was looked on with especial favour by the Whigs, not more on account of his being a scion of one of the "great families," than on the score of his nascent Parliamentary talent. He devoted himself, almost from the commencement of his public life, to the great question of Parliamentary Reform, which, however, he approached cautiously, as prudence dictated in an age when to be a Reformer almost placed a man under a social ban. Year after year he brought forward motions, sometimes a bill, either for the disfranchisement of notoriously corrupt boroughs, and the transference of the privilege to large towns, or for a more general application of the same principle to the whole representative system. In 1823, we find him spoken of by the author of "Public Characters," as "a young man of as great promise as any that had appeared among the nobility for some years." Passing over many details, for which there is no place in a mere biographical outline, we come to the era of 1830—1, when Lord John Russell received the first reward of his long struggle for Reform, in being selected to aid in framing, and ultimately to introduce, the great Reform Bill. That was a period of immense popular excitement; and, of all the Whig Ministers, none quaffed more copiously of the cup of popularity than Lord John Russell. He was cheered on by the public sympathy in his long struggle against the Tory Opposition; and when his labours were over, he received ovations of all kinds, among the most conspicuous of which were some banquets got up in his honour. He took a fair share in introducing and supporting the various measures carried by the Grey and Melbourne Governments; among which were Municipal Reform, Poor-law Reform, the East India Charter and China Trade Bill, Irish Church Reform, the Irish Poor-law, the Dissenters' Marriages Act, &c. The dismissal of the Melbourne Government carried with it the resignation of Lord John Russell; but he again returned to office in 1835. From 1830 to 1834 he had been Paymaster of the Forces: in April, 1835, he assumed the higher post of Secretary for the Home Department, and with it the leadership of the House of Commons. In 1839 he exchanged that office for the Colonial Secretariate, which he resigned in September, 1841. The history of the Whig Administration during that period is, in fact, the biography of Lord J. Russell; for he was identified with their measures, and, from his position, exercised a powerful control in their councils. The accession of Sir Robert Peel threw him once more into Opposition; but, the defection of the "Country party," in 1846, having deprived Sir R. Peel of his chief party support, Lord John Russell was called on by His Majesty to form a Cabinet, which he did out of the old Whig materials. His task was to carry out what Sir Robert Peel had begun. He did so cautiously, and with a due regard to the interests that might be affected by sudden change. In dealing with the Sugar-duties he acted on this principle; and he postponed the repeal of the Navigation-laws so long, that the more eager Reformers began to doubt his sincerity. The events of 1848 gave the Government of Lord John Russell full employment, both abroad and at home; and the time not thus occupied was devoted to useful practical reforms. The death of Lord George Bentinck having placed Mr. Disraeli at the head of the Tory, or Country party, that gentleman commenced a series of skilful Opposition tactics, and Lord John Russell acknowledged him as the leader of the Opposition. The minority now gradually increased, until, in 1850, Lord J. Russell was only able to defeat one of Mr. Disraeli's propositions by a majority of fourteen. Another defeat, sustained at the hands of Mr. Locke King, showed that the Radical portion of the Ministerial party were becoming resolute to have some further parliamentary and electoral reform. This Lord John Russell soon afterwards offered, in the shape of a new Reform Bill, which proved, however, insufficient to meet the wishes of the Reformers. In the autumn of 1850 appeared Lord John Russell's letter to the Bishop of Durham, characterising in strong language the recent Bull of the Pope, and reflecting on the religious ceremonies (as it was supposed) of the Roman Catholics. The publication of this document was the signal for a fierce religious dispute; and, early in 1851, Lord John Russell introduced his bill forbidding the Roman Catholic prelates to use territorial titles. This measure was opposed, *ab initio*, by the successors of Sir Robert Peel, who also disapproved of the letter to the Bishop of Durham, as having imported religious feeling into a question essentially political. Lord John Russell at one time resigned office, but was forced to resume it because Sir James Graham and his friends would not join him, and Lord Derby was not ready. Ultimately, after suffering serious changes, to suit both Tories and Peelites, the bill passed, and the session came to a close; the events of the year having left on the minds of political observers a conviction that the Russell Administration could not last long. Scarcely was the session over, when Lord John Russell dismissed Lord Palmerston from the post of Foreign Secretary, thus precipitating the catastrophe; and, almost immediately after the commencement of the next session, the ejected Minister having carried a vote on the Militia Bill against the Government, Lord John Russell resigned, and made way for the Derby Government. In Opposition he preferred a more cautious and moderate line of tactics than that desired by the followers of Sir Robert Peel and the representatives of the Manchester school. It was even supposed that his leadership of the Whig party was at an end. Events proved, however, that a long life of public service in the cause of Liberalism and progress could not be so easily ignored; and, on the defeat of the Derbyites, although Lord John Russell had somewhat ostentatiously abstained from an active share in hostilities, he was called on to take a most important part in the present Government. Without him, the arrangement could not have been made satisfactorily; and he showed a spirit of honourable concession and self-sacrifice in waiving the pretensions warranted by his past official rank, accepting the seals of the Foreign-office, but retaining the leadership of the House of Commons—a post for which he is peculiarly fitted, by his experience, tact, and temper. Lord John Russell's name will be associated in history with the repeal of the Test Acts and the Reform Act. He has throughout his life been a consistent Liberal, but acting on the rule that it is better to advance steadily, if slowly, than to create reaction by precipitancy. He is the younger brother of the present Duke of Bedford; was born in 1792; and has been twice married. After representing successively Huntingdonshire, Tavistock, South Devon, Bandon Bridge, and Stroud, he was elected in 1841 for the city of London, which he has since continued to represent.

VISCOUNT PALMERSTON.

Lord Palmerston has been in the service of the State, with the exception of two brief intervals, since the year 1807; and he has held office under every Prime Minister of this country, save one, during the last five-and-forty years. Born in 1784, in 1806 he made his first great essay in public life by contesting (unsuccessfully) Cambridge University with Lord Henry Petty (Marquis of Lansdowne); those two opponents now, at the expiration of six-and-forty years, finding themselves together in the same Cabinet. In 1807 Lord Palmerston was made a Lord of the Admiralty under the Duke of Portland; and, in 1809, he was elevated to the post of Secretary-at-War. This was under Mr. Percival; and he continued to fill the same office under the successive Administrations of Lord Liverpool, Mr. Canning, Lord Goderich, and the Duke of Wellington. In 1828 he resigned, at the time Mr. Huskisson quitted the Ministry; but, on the accession of the Whigs, in 1830, Lord Palmerston accepted the important post of Foreign Secretary. He was a disciple of Canning, and had upheld the principles in foreign policy of that statesman in some brilliant speeches, after seceding from the Duke's Administration. In office, he upheld the same general principles; but was accused by his opponents of too much intermeddling in the internal affairs of foreign states, in his desire to advance constitutional principles among them. His

most doughty and persevering antagonist on this head was the Earl of Aberdeen, under whom he has now again accepted office. Taking an active part in the domestic policy of the Whig Ministry, he still more especially devoted himself to foreign affairs. To him is attributable the settlement of Beliinn, the quadruple treaty by which England, France, Spain, and Portugal bound themselves to mutual amity, and the former to aid the latter; and that prolonged interference in the political affairs of the kingdoms of the Peninsula which has resulted in the consolidation of the thrones of Donna Maria and Isabella. He went out with the Whigs, in November 1834, having added two more to the list of premiers under whom he had served—Lords Grey and Melbourne—and resumed his old post when they returned, in 1835. He continued his old policy till 1841, continually opposed by Lord Aberdeen, and by the present Lord Stratford, so long as he was a member of the House of Commons. With his party he went into Opposition in 1841, supporting generally the financial schemes of Sir Robert Peel, and finally voting for Corn-law repeal; although with a reservation of his opinion in favour of a fixed duty for revenue. We do not here enter into all the details of his life. It is enough to say that under his guidance England's foreign relations were honourable to the national pride, but provocative of enmity on the part of foreign Sovereigns, who regarded Lord Palmerston as a propagandist patron of their dissatisfied subjects. These feelings found an echo in a portion of the English press, until the antagonists of Lord Palmerston conceived that they might attack him successfully in Parliament. In the Lords a condemnatory vote was carried, on the motion of Lord Derby, supported by Lord Aberdeen; but in the House of Commons that decision was counteracted by a vote in favour of the noble Viscount, whose speech in defence of his whole policy during many years stands on record as one of the most wonderful efforts of argumentative eloquence. This was in the middle of the year 1850. By December, 1851, Lord John Russell, who had till then stoutly defended his colleague, had so changed his opinion, that he dismissed him from office. Lord Palmerston, on the meeting of Parliament, retaliated, by turning out Lord John Russell and his colleagues; and, in exactly one year from his dismissal, he consented to perform the part of "Home Secretary" to the "Foreign Secretary" of Lord John Russell; and with, for his official superior, the statesman who for more than twenty years had been the steady and persevering opponent of his policy. Lord Palmerston unites to an extraordinary capacity for business, and an experience which in the present day is unrivalled, debating powers of the highest order. He is an extraordinary instance of mental and physical vigour, and of the stamina so remarkable in British statesmen. In his sixty-ninth year, he is as capable, and as formidable, whether in his capacity of Minister or of debater, as he was in his fortieth—nay, even more so, for as his mind more and more ripens, his physical powers seem to suffer no diminution. Lord Palmerston married the sister of Lord Melbourne, in 1839. He sat for Bletchingley in 1806. He subsequently sat for Cambridge University, which he represented till 1831, when he returned to Bletchingley. In 1832 he was elected for South Hants, but lost his seat in 1834. In June, 1835, he was elected for Tiverton, and in that snug haven he has ever since remained.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Third son of Sir John Gladstone, an eminent Liverpool merchant, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, commenced his career in a manner the least to be expected from his origin. Having distinguished himself at Oxford, he launched into the world a work on "The State in its relations with the Church," which left the public under the impression that he was a man devoted to abstract questions of religious doctrine, discipline, and Church government; and, moreover, a strenuous advocate of the principles commonly known as "Puseyite." When he entered Parliament, in 1832, it was soon discovered that he had all the natural capacity for eminence as a debater; and Sir Robert Peel, a keen judge of talent, made him a Lord of the Treasury; and subsequently, Under Secretary for the Colonies, in 1834. On the return of that Minister to power, in 1841, Mr. Gladstone was made Vice-President of the Board of Trade; and, in 1842, President of the Board. In this capacity he was the "right-hand man" of Sir Robert Peel, in carrying his commercial and fiscal reforms; developing a talent for such duties, and a knowledge of the necessary details, that astonished those who had only regarded him as a speculative writer. He resigned office in February, 1845; but came in again as Colonial Secretary, in December of that year, remaining till the downfall of the Peel Government. From that date he has continued a distinguished member of the Peel party, though leaning more than Sir James Graham to the principle of "compensation" to agriculture. When, however, Mr. Disraeli put this principle into shape in his Budget, Mr. Gladstone would not adopt it, but became its most determined opponent. His prominence in the final onslaught on Mr. Disraeli pointed him out as his successor in the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, for which his past experience at the Board of Trade eminently fits him. Mr. Gladstone was first returned for Oxford University, in 1847.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM.

The career of Sir James Graham has been one or unusual political vicissitudes. During his early political life he was accounted a Radical: in 1830 he accepted the post of First Lord of the Admiralty, under Earl Grey; but resigned in 1834 on the Irish Church question, thinking that the Whigs were going too far. After remaining for a short time, together with the present Earl of Derby, in a neutral position, he joined the Opposition under Sir Robert Peel; and when that statesman came into power, in 1841, he took office as Home Secretary, ably supporting his financial and commercial reforms, his Maynooth Bill, and, finally, his proposal to repeal the Corn-laws. An able Home Secretary he was, also an arbitrary one, and he was exposed to much odium for having authorised the opening of the letters of political refugees. He went out with Sir Robert Peel in 1846, and, although sitting on the Opposition benches, he abstained from active opposition to Lord John Russell till the question of Papal Aggression arose, when he took a decided part against the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. Several attempts by Lord John Russell to induce him and his friends to coalesce with the Whigs failed, nor would he step in to avert the downfall of the Whig Cabinet, in 1852. To the Derby Administration he was a determined opponent, manifesting very decided Liberal tendencies; indeed, he was at one time regarded as the proximate Premier of an ultra-Liberal Administration. He was the prime mover of the tactics that led to the defeat of Lord Derby; and the public were somewhat surprised to find that, in the new Ministry of Lord Aberdeen, he had returned to his earliest official post, at the Admiralty. He manifested the same spirit of self-denial that had actuated Lord John Russell. Sir James Graham was one of those appointed to draw up the Reform Bill; and he has taken an active share in either framing or modifying almost every great measure passed within the last twenty years. To great vigour of mind and application, he unites shrewdness, sagacity, and a debating talent characterised by simplicity and force. While, in Parliament he can be alternately impressively eloquent or soundly argumentative, as a hustings orator, for an *ad captandum* speech, he has no superior. His administrative talent is of the highest order. As a tactician and partisan, he is one of those men in whom Cromwell delighted as "thorough;" never doing anything by halves, but throwing the whole force of his vigorous faculties into whatever he undertakes. Thus, at different epochs, he has seemed to outvie both Radicals and Conservatives in earnestness of purpose; but usually cooling down in office (whether in the one character or the other), and grappling with his administrative duties with the same masculine determination. Sir James Graham was born in 1792. He has sat for various places—for Carlisle, East Cumberland, the Pembrokeshire, Dorchester, Ripon, and now again for Carlisle.

MR. SIDNEY HERBERT.

The political career of this gentleman, who is half-brother to the Earl of Pembroke, did not commence until a period recent when compared with that when most of his colleagues started in life. He had already distinguished himself by some good speeches, when Sir R. Peel selected him, in the year 1841, to fill the office of Secretary to the Admiralty; promoting him, in February, 1845, to the more important one of Secretary at War. Mr. Herbert resigned office with Sir Robert Peel, in 1846, and has ever since attached himself to the fortunes of his colleagues in the Peel Government. He is one of those to whom the term "Liberal Conservative" well applies; for he commenced his Parliamentary life a confirmed Tory, with opinions favourable to agricultural protection. These he abandoned under the influence of Sir Robert Peel's example; and, in 1846, he voted for Corn-law Repeal. Mr. Herbert was born in 1810; and married, in 1846, a daughter of Lord Heytesbury. He has distinguished himself, together with his amiable lady, as the founder and supporter of the Female Emigration Society. He has represented South Wilts since 1852.

SIR CHARLES WOOD.

Sir Charles Wood was born in 1800, and married a daughter of the late Earl Grey. After having been private secretary to his father-in-law, he was appointed, in 1832, Secretary to the Treasury, in the room of Mr. Edward Ellice. When the Whigs returned to office in April,

1835, Sir Charles Wood was promoted from the Secretaryship to the Admiralty, which he held till 1839. In 1846, when Lord John Russell came in, he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer, an office he continued to hold till the resignation of the Whigs in 1846. Like his late chief, he was in his earlier life opposed to the repeal of the Corn-laws, preferring a fixed duty, but he followed him in 1846 in voting for their total repeal. Sir Charles came in for Great Grimsby in 1826. In 1851, he exchanged the seat for Warrington; and in 1852 he sat for Halifax, which he still represents. Sir Charles Wood is a good man of business, and a tolerable speaker. He will probably be more useful as President of the Board of Control, than in his former office of Chancellor of the Exchequer.

THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

The official career of this nobleman commenced at about the date of Mr. Sidney Herbert's, he having been one of the young statesmen selected by Sir Robert Peel from the Tory ranks to carry out his Liberal-Conservative policy. As the Earl of Lincoln, he was made, first a Lord of the Treasury, Commissioner of Woods and Forests, and Chief Secretary for Ireland. His change of policy with regard to the Corn-laws, in 1846, led to a rupture between him and his father, the late Duke of Newcastle. The influence of the father was used to eject the son from the representation of South Notts, which he had enjoyed since 1832. The former prevailed, and the present Duke was obliged to take refuge in the Falmer Burghs. He was born in 1811. During the interval between 1846 and the present time, he has rendered good service to his party; which they now have rewarded by appointing him Secretary for the Colonies.

EARL GRANVILLE.

This nobleman first attracted public notice by his admirable arrangements in respect of the Great Exhibition of 1851. Under Lord John Russell, Lord Granville was successively Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Master of the Buckhounds, Paymaster of the Forces, and Treasurer of the Navy. Finally, he was made Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in December, 1851, on the retirement of Lord Palmerston. He resigned in the February following. Lord Granville is a good man of business, and a speaker of more than average excellence. His father received the title in 1833. Lord Granville was born in 1815, and sat for some years in the House of Commons before succeeding to the title.

SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH.

The career of the hon. Baronet the member for Southwark has hitherto been remarkable for consistency. He has been from his first entrance into Parliament a Radical Reformer, advocating the Ballot, Short Parliaments, Free-trade, and the removal of the Bishops from the House of Lords. Upon these principles he sat for Cornwall from 1832 to 1837, and subsequently has represented Southwark. His specialty, however, is Colonial Reform, on which subject he has annually made a powerful and luminous speech in the House of Commons. His being offered a seat in the new Cabinet is considered an evidence of the Liberal tendencies of the Government, and his re-election for Southwark, without opposition, shows that his constituents do not consider his acceptance of office has barred his claim on their confidence. Sir William was born in 1810. He has also distinguished himself in literature; avowedly as the editor of the works of Hobbes, and, by repute, as a periodical writer of great power. From his antecedents, we should argue that he will prove an efficient Minister. His extensive colonial knowledge will, of course, be useful to his colleagues in deliberation.

LORD CRANWORTH.

The new Lord Chancellor has passed through a quiet, unobtrusive, but most useful career. As Mr. Rolfe, he was highly respected at the Chancery bar; and he assumed office, under the Melbourne Administration, as Solicitor-General. Subsequently he was appointed a Baron of the Exchequer, a Vice-Chancellor, and one of the Lords-Judges in Chancery. Finally, he has been made Lord Chancellor; and the universal approval of the legal profession attests to the wisdom of the choice.

THE DUKE OF ARGYLL.

Unless it be that the Duke of Argyll is the youngest member of the Cabinet, we do not know why he should be placed last in the list, for in point of ability he does not yield to any of his senior colleagues, although of course wanting their official experience. The Duke of Argyll was born in 1823. He had scarcely made his appearance in the House of Lords when he was marked as a man of promise, one who unites with a certain originality of character, the more useful and practical advantages of sound sense and information. As yet he has done little, but that little indicates very superior talents, and heralds a brilliant future. The noble Duke has published a work on the Scottish Church question. He holds, by hereditary right, the office of Master of the Household in Scotland, and of Sheriff of Argyllshire. In 1851, he was elected Chancellor of the University of St. Andrews. We shall publish a portrait of his Grace in the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* of Saturday next, the 15th instant.

MINISTERIAL OPINIONS FROM THE HUSTINGS.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL ON THE INCOME-TAX AND FINANCIAL POLICY.

"There has of late been much discussion on a subject connected with the Income-tax, namely, the rate at which different kinds of incomes should be assessed. Now, that is a question which the late Ministry undertook to settle, but evidently without having fully examined it. When they were asked respecting it, whether in curing one injustice they did not create many other instances of injustice, the answer of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was, that he had not had time to examine the schedules. Now, our Chancellor of the Exchequer—my colleague—means to take time for the purpose of examining the schedules. He will devote all his time and attention in conjunction with others, before he brings forward the Income-tax measure, in order to see in what manner that measure can be amended, and in what manner the measure thus amended can be defended. Now, I have always said that I thought injustice was inherent in an Income-tax. At the same time do not let us forget that the Income-tax, faulty as I think it originally was, faulty as I believe it must be, has been the means of relieving the country from upwards of £12,000,000 of taxes bearing chiefly upon the industry and commerce of the country. My opinion is, that if it be borne for some years more, still greater alleviation can be obtained from the national burdens, and that in gradual revision, and not in sudden reformation of our taxation, is to be found the true financial policy of this country."

THE SAME—ON THE "COALITION."

"We have been accused by the late Prime Minister of factious combination. Why, how could we—all having objections of a similar nature to the measure proposed—how could we do otherwise than concur? Let me ask your leave to submit an illustration of this case. If an omnibus, with some ten or twelve passengers inside, is seen going down Ludgate-hill at a furious pace, breaking into the shop-windows, and endangering all the persons going by; why every man would concur—the man going east, as well as the man going west—all would concur in stopping the omnibus, and telling the coachman to get off his box (Laughter). But how much more surprised would all those passengers, and the policeman at their head, be, if the coachman were to say, 'Why, this is factious combination (Laughter); you, gentlemen, were some of you going one way, and some going another; and yet you have all combined to prevent me from driving my omnibus into the shops on either side of the street!' (Renewed laughter). Such, however, was the charge made against us—a charge at which I think, as you will see, we need not be very much concerned."

SIR JAMES GRAHAM ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

"It is said that no Reform-bill can be expected from the Duke of Newcastle. I tell you this, that unless the present Government do bring forward a Reform-bill, I will not remain in office. Something has been said with reference to the time and the precise nature of details. The new Cabinet has never yet assembled for business, and, consequently, can have had no opportunity of considering their measures; but I tell you that you must leave the Government, constituted as it is with balanced opinions, and representing not only the aristocratic but also the democratic principle—you must leave to those trusted with the management of affairs the time and the mode of producing their measures. Lord Grey, in the exercise of his discretion, by selecting his time and opportunity, carried one of the greatest changes ever effected in this country without bloodshed. It was a revolution; but, because well-timed, it was a bloodless revolution. An extension of popular rights is necessary. The Government is pledged to introduce such a measure, but the precise time and manner must, within moderate limits, be left to their discretion."

THE SAME—ON LAW REFORM.

"Talking of law reform, the Government of Lord Derby strayed about in borrowed plumes. Who, I ask you, were the persons who prepared the measures of law reform which were passed by the late Government? They were recommended by a commission, and there sat at the head of it Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls—a son of that man

was denounced as a destructive—I have lived to see all them adopted with benefit and satisfaction to the British people (Loud cheers). Who was another member of that commission? Sir George Turner, who has only this last week been elevated by the present Government to the highest official position in this country. Who was another member? Sir William Page Wood, the Solicitor-General under Lord John Russell's Government. Who else has served on that commission? I also, who have now the honour of addressing you. We shall not stand still. The Court of Chancery has been reformed. Common-law proceedings have been simplified. We must now go to the ecclesiastical courts. Such proceedings as that of Mr. Moore, the son of an Archbishop, with £7000 a year and a reversion in favour of his grandson must be put an end to."

SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH ON REFORM.

"Now, the late elections, and the election petitions on the table of the House of Commons, disclose a hideous scene of bribery, corruption, and intimidation, and there is too much reason to fear that many of those disgraceful, discreditable, and illegal acts were committed with the connivance, if not with the positive approval, of persons who were in high authority. Now, I say, an effort must be made to put a stop to such disgraceful proceedings, and, therefore, the question of a Reform Bill is one which must and will engage the early attention of her Majesty's Ministers."

LORD PALMERSTON ON THE BUDGET.

"Taking the Budget piece by piece, upon principle, it was not a bad Budget. In the first place, it relieved the shipping interest from some vexatious restrictions to which it had still been exposed; and in the next place it proposed to diminish to the consumer the cost of beer and the price of tea. Now, some persons thought that the diminution of the Malt-tax was to be to the benefit of the landed interest—to the farmer and the landowner—that was a pure delusion—an entire delusion. It could have been of no benefit to them, except by raising the price of barley; but how was it to raise the price of barley? Why, as beer would have been cheaper, more would have been drunk—more malt made—more barley bought—and the demand increasing, the price would have increased—but foreign barley and malt would have come in, and the farmer would not be one farthing the better, and therefore would have no interest in the matter. Well, then, another part of the Budget was to increase taxation—doubling the House-tax and extending it to £10 houses. Well, gentlemen, if the public credit required an increase of taxation—if the public credit required an augmentation of the revenue—and if no other mode less objectionable could be found—I am persuaded that the patriotism and good sense of the householders of England would lead them cheerfully to acquiesce in the augmentation of their burdens. There was no such necessity in the present instance."

MR. BAINES ON OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

"With regard to the other members of the Cabinet, he would only say that they possessed as great an amount of administrative ability as was ever possessed by any Cabinet in this country. He might also say, with the most perfect truth, that these members were men of the most spotless character. They were engaged in the task of governing the country—a task which he had strong confidence in believing they would discharge efficiently. In the House of Lords, the head of the Government (Lord Aberdeen) had given an outline of the policy which would be adopted. Government would respect in foreign nations the right of choosing their own rulers. No unnecessary intervention with foreign countries would take place, nor would anything be resorted to to break that peace which it was so important to preserve; but, on the contrary, all the arts of peace would be cultivated by every means in the power of the Government."

HON. C. P. VILLIERS ON REPRESENTATION AND EDUCATION.

"He thought a change was necessary in their representative system. Common sense showed that it was most defective, and could not be allowed to exist much longer. They had small insignificant places, with populations of 10,000, returning two members to Parliament, and important towns with 200,000, returning only the same number. The mode of election, too, was objectionable. The wealthy possessed undue influence over the less favoured portion of the community; and abuses existed which should be swept away. Corruption and immorality were consequent upon the present mode of election, and he thought some means should be devised to remedy the evil. It had been suggested that the ballot should be adopted; but certain parties objected to it; though they could show a better. In the interview he had with the first Minister of the Crown, he stated his opinion in favour of the ballot. Upon the question of education he would observe that though he disapproved of Government interference in social and domestic life, he was of opinion the state should provide education for the children of the poor, who were unable to provide it for them."

THE RE-ELECTIONS.

AYLESBURY.—Mr. Bethell, the Solicitor-General.

BRIGHTON.—Lord Alfred Hervey, one of the Lords of the Treasury.

CARLISLE.—Sir James Graham, Bart., First Lord of the Admiralty.

DUMFRIESSHIRE.—Sir William Jardine will oppose Lord Drumlanrig, the Cancellor of the Household. The election is on the 12th.

GLOUCESTER.—Admiral Berkeley, Lord of the Admiralty, has been returned by a majority of 93 over Mr. Hope. Close of the poll—Berkeley, 762; Hope, 669.

HADDINGTON.—The 11th is the day fixed for the election; but no opposition is anticipated to the Hon. F. Charteris, a Lord of the Treasury.

HALIFAX.—Sir Charles Wood, Bart., Chief Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was returned for this borough, in opposition to Mr. H. Edwards, by a majority of 66, the close of the poll being—Sir C. Wood, 592; Mr. H. Edwards, 526.

HERTFORD.—The Hon. W. F. Cowper, one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

LEEDS.—M. T. Baines, Esq., President of the Poor Law Board.

LEITH BURGH.—Mr. Moncrieff, Lord Advocate.

LICHFIELD.—Lord Alfred Paget, Chief Equerry.

LONDON.—Lord John Russell, Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

MARLBOROUGH.—Lord Ernest Bruce, Vice-Chamberlain.

NOTTINGHAM.—Edward Strutt, Esq., Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

OXFORD (University).—The polling proceeds very languidly, and will close on the 12th instant.

SCARBOROUGH.—Earl Mulgrave, Treasurer of the Household.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Sir Alexander Cockburn, the Attorney-General, has defeated Mr. B. Cochrane.

SOUTH WILTS.—Mr. Sidney Herbert, the Secretary of War, will be opposed by the Hon. Granville F. Berkeley. The nomination is on Tuesday, the 11th.

SOUTHWAKE.—Sir William Molesworth, Bart., First Commissioner of Works.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Hon. C. P. Villiers, Judge Advocate General.

MORPETH.—Sir George Grey, Bart., has been returned in place of the Hon. E. Howard, resigned.

OXFORD (CITY).—Edward Cardwell, Esq., President of the Board of Trade, has been returned for this city, in place of Sir W. P. Wood, who has accepted the Vice-Chancellorship.

THE EXCISE.—The following regulations have been made relative to the appointments in the Excise:—"The candidate must not be less than 19, nor more than 25; must be healthy, active, without any bodily infirmity, unmarried and without family, and free from debt. He must understand the first four rules of vulgar and decimal fractions, and book-keeping by double entry; and write fluently and correctly from dictation. On his qualifications being approved upon examination, he will be placed under instructions for a period not less than six weeks; after which, when it shall be certified that he is capable of acting as an officer, his salary of £50 per annum as an expectant will commence; and when actually employed on duty he will receive an additional allowance at the rate of £30 per annum. A person possessing average capacity, with the indispensable requisites of industry and attention, will, generally, in about two years, be promoted in his turn to be an assistant or a supernumerary officer, the salary of whom is £35 or £20 per annum respectively; and will, in about two years more be promoted, in his turn, to be a ride officer, at a salary of £400 per annum, when he will be required to provide himself with and keep a horse for the performance of his duty. His further promotion will depend on his efficiency and conduct; and he cannot, according to the rules of the service, marry before he attains the rank of ride officer."

SUBTERRANEAN TELEGRAPH BETWEEN LONDON AND LIVERPOOL.—The contractors have just commenced operations for laying down the underground telegraph from Cornhill to Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham, along the old coach road, and the line, when completed, will place those towns in immediate communication with the Continent, besides furnishing a duplicate line of telegraph communication with the metropolis.

EARTHQUAKE IN THE WEST INDIES.—There were two slight shocks of earthquake felt in Kingston (Jamaica) on the morning of the 10th ult. An earthquake as violent, and of longer duration than that which occurred on the 20th of August last, took place at St. Jago de Cuba on the 26th of November, and which did considerable damage to many public and private buildings, but was, fortunately, not attended with any loss of life.

CALORIC SHIP "ERICSSON."—The engines of the calorific ship *Ericsson* have been worked for ten hours consecutively, and made nearly six and half revolutions per minute. This work was performed upon 420 pounds of coal, carefully measured, and supplied to the furnaces each hour. During the whole time the machinery was in operation, the furnaces being worked upon a checked draft, the fires continually augmented. Such a result exhibits in a remarkable degree the economy of this wonderful machinery.—*New York Paper*.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BRITISH CHESS CLUBS.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of the Rules, &c., of the Weymouth Chess Club, the Weymouth Chess Club, the Bournemouth Chess Club, the Bognor Regis Chess Club, and of the new Chess Club at Huddersfield. What are the other societies about? and that out of above one hundred clubs our appeal for a dozen only?

TYBALT.—See our advertisement page in the last Number. 2. You may procure Major Jaenisch's "Analyse Nouvelle" of Williams and Norzage, the foreign booksellers. 3. Mr. Szcz, residing at Pest, in Hungary; his coadjutors, in the celebrated match against the Paris Club. 4. S. S., Shanghai.—Safely received, though nearly three months after date. A reply will be forwarded by the next Overland Mail.

DUGDALE.—The new work by Mr. Cochrane, called "Loose Leaves of Indian Chess," is ex-

1. in England only. It will be published in Calcutta, we believe.

E. A. M., of India.—We have to acknowledge our obligations for the clever problems received, and only regret your having staid us this time to so limited a number.

W. G., of York.—It is practicable, a second examination shows us, and highly ingenious also.

R. D. B.—Any person is eligible to join the Great Chess Association now forming in the northern and midland counties, on being registered and paying an annual subscription of £s.

The new Club is to be established at Manchester.

STELLA.—The problem on hand appears shortly.

VINCENT.—Your abridged solution is perfectly correct.

S. M., Weymouth.—Promising! but somewhat too easy for our column.

C. S., Brighton.—The best are marked for early insertion.

H. M., Kirkstall.—It shall receive the distinction of a diagram or long.

J. C. W.—Correct, but wanting something of the point and artistic finish of some of your former productions.

FORMER.—Not so difficult as you suppose. Our observations on the subject have already awakened attention. In the rules, 1. the new Club at Huddersfield we find it entered:—

"REPEATING THE GIVING OF IDEAS.—That, as it is manifestly unfair to expect a player who devotes much time to the study of the game to continue playing upon even terms with one who has not done so, or is his inferior in force, the following scale be adopted:—If a player in a match of eleven games wins seven games to his opponent's four, he shall be entitled to give his Pawn and move in the next eleven games; and if, at these odds, he still wins the same proportion of the Pawn and two moves; after which, the Knight, Rook, &c., &c. and a player reciting odds must win seven games against four, to be entitled to play at the next board.

G. M. G.—The solution of Enigma No. 774 is, 1. R. to Q Kt 7th (ch); 2. R. to Q 6th (ch); 3. R to K 5th (ch) (White, as his best, now takes Rook); 4. R. to Q 5th (ch) (White must take the Rook and Black is stalemate). The solution of Herr Krome's beautiful little Strategem, No. 775, is, 1. K to K R 3rd; 2. P. to K B 3rd; 3. K. to K R 5th; 4. Kt mates. Black's moves are all forced.

H. J., Milksham.—"The Chess-player's Handbook," as a work of instruction.

M. C., Lancaster.—Look at the original position of No. 461, once more attentively, and you will soon discover your mistake. The other solutions you have sent are equally erroneous.

GERMANICUS.—You are egregiously wrong. Problem No. 460 cannot any way be solved in less than the number of moves stipulated.

R. T. C., &c., Albans.—1. In our Number of December 25th, the position you mention was acknowledged to be "a pretty, though very easy end game." 2. It is published monthly, price 1s. 6d., and can be got through any bookseller. No club should be without it.

W. R., Glasgow.—Replied with thanks, and acknowledged by letter.

J. GAMBLE.—William Gamble has reached his eighth square you may claim any piece you choose, without regard to what you have already on the board. We must have

excused this question a hundred times.

G. M.—See our advertising page in the last Number.

PHILIPPI.—1. We cannot afford the space to print a solution of the fine Problem by "Lelli,"

who you name; but, if you will forward an address, it shall be sent. 2. The *Chester-player's Chronicle* is published by Kent and Co., Paternoster-row, on the 1st of every month.

E. F. H., Hackford.—They shall have prompt examination.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 465.

WHITE BLACK. WHITE BLACK.
1. Q to K R 4th (ch) K to his 3rd 4. Q takes P (ch) P takes Q
2. Q to K R 6th (ch) K to Q 2nd (best) 5. B to Q Kt 6th—Mate.
3. B takes P (ch) K to Q sq

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 466.

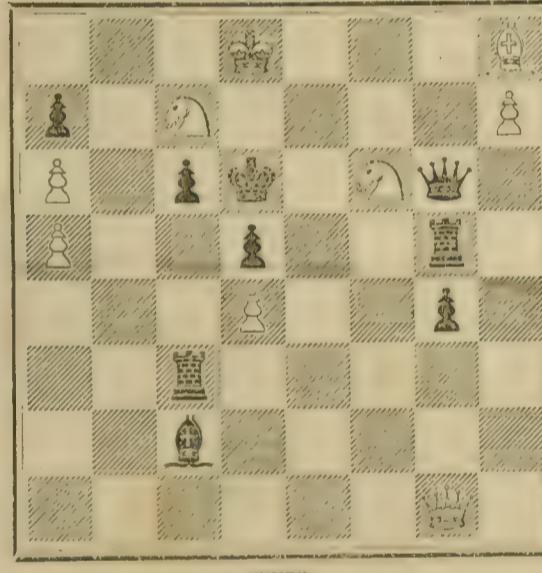
WHITE BLACK. WHITE BLACK.
1. Q takes B R to K B sq 3. R takes Kt Q takes Kt
2. Q to K B 7th Q to Q sq (best) 4. R to K 8th—and wins.

* If R to K Kt sq, or R to Q Kt sq, White plays 2. Q to K 6th, and wins a piece.

PROBLEM No. 467.

By the Rev. H. BOLTON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in six moves.

CHESS IN INDIA.

The following is a game in the match arranged by the Calcutta Chess Club, between the two Brahmins, MOHESCHUNDER and P'TUMBER.

(French Opening.)

WHITE (M.) BLACK (P.) WHITE (M.) BLACK (P.)
1. K to R 4th P to K 3rd 13. Q takes Kt (p) B to K 2nd
2. P to Q 4th P to Q Kt 3rd (a) 14. P takes Q B P to K 2nd
3. K to B 3rd B to Q Kt 2nd 15. P to Q R 5th K takes B
4. Kt to K B 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd 16. P to Q R 5th Q takes P
5. P to Q B 3rd K to Q Kt 2d 17. P to Q R 5th K takes B
6. Castles Castles 18. P takes K R P to K Q B 2nd
7. P to Q Kt 4th P to Q 4th 19. K R to Q Kt sq Kt to K Q 2nd
8. P to K 5th P to K B 2nd 20. K R to Q Kt sq Kt to K Q 2nd
9. P to Q Kt 5th (b) Kt to Q R 2nd 21. Q to Q Kt 6th K to Q 2nd
10. Q to K 2nd (b) P to Q B 3rd (c) 22. B to Q Kt 5th Q R to Q B sq
11. P to Q R 4th P to K 4th 23. P to Q R 5th (b) R takes Q
12. P takes K B P Q takes P (c) counting a Queen
13. Q Kt to his 3rd Rt takes Kt 24. Q to Kt 7th (ch) K to Q 3d
14. B takes K P Q takes P (d) 25. B takes B Q R to Q sq
15. B takes K P takes P (e) 26. R to Q R 6th—and wins

(a) This is quite in the Oriental style.

(b) Moheschunder, by longer practice with European adversaries, is more familiar with modern chess warfare than his opponent, and has acquired a vigour in his mode of attack which few native Indian players ever attain.

(c) Poor Black is sorely hampered. He cannot be said to have one of his pieces in good play, and it is not very easy to devise means to extricate them.

(d) This gives him a little elbow room, but at a cost he can ill afford.

(e) He might also have taken the Rook, or taken the Q B P with Pawn. In the latter case the continuation would probably have been as follows:—

15. P takes Q B P takes P (best) 18. Q. to K B 3rd B to K 2nd (best)
16. Kt to K 6th Q to Kt 2nd (best) 19. Kt to K B 7th Q to Q 2nd
17. B takes R Kt takes R 20. R takes Kt

And White must win the exchange, and have decidedly the advantage of position.

(f) R to Q R 7th (ch) would have been stronger.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 787.—By E. M. H., of Hull.

White: K at his R 6th, R at Q B 2nd, Bs at K K 2nd and Q Kt sq;

P's at K B 3rd, Q 2nd, and Q B 7th.

Black: K at K B 4th, R at Q R 2nd, B at Q R 3rd, Kts at K 3rd and Q R 6th; Ps at K R 2nd, K B 3rd, Q B 5th, Q Kt 2nd, and Q R 7th.

White to play and mate in five moves.</p



DINNER TO MR. THOMAS CUBITT'S WORKMEN, AT THE NEW RESIDENCE OF THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY, CHESHAM-PLACE.

THE NEW RESIDENCE OF THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY.

CHRISTMAS is usually the scene of those pleasant festivities which unite the higher and lower classes in one common enjoyment. A remarkable instance of this occurred on Monday the 27th instant, on the completion of the new residence of the Russian Embassy in Chesham-place; when the kindness and hospitality of the Baron Brunnow were displayed in an entertainment given by his Excellency to about 200 of the workmen employed in Mr. Thomas Cubitt's establishment, who have been occupied during the past ten months in the necessary alterations.

To form Chesham-house, as the future residence of the Imperial Embassy is designated, two of the largest mansions in Chesham-place have been thrown into one—a task of no ordinary difficulty, and requiring the most skilful arrangement. The whole of the ordinary fronts of the two houses have been thrown into one handsome façade, the doors removed, and the entrance to the embassy made through two ornamental lodges, opening into a spacious court-yard from Lyall-street.

On the occasion referred to, the walls were decorated with garlands of evergreens, expressive of a hearty Christmas welcome to the guests. The good taste of the *maître d'hôtel* had also introduced from the temporary residence of the Baron Brunnow two portraits of the Queen and Prince Albert, which formed the most conspicuous ornaments of the vast range of apartments. A medallion transparency of her Majesty, with the motto "Vivat Regina" over the staircase, and a colossal representation of the Imperial Russian arms between the entrances to the principal salons, completed the interior decorations. The tables were spread along the length of the drawing-rooms, extending between 200 and 300 feet, and a liberal feast crowned the board.

Mr. Pearce, the *maître d'hôtel* of the Baron Brunnow, occupied the

chair, supported by the principal *employés* of Mr. Cubitt, whose son, Mr. George Cubitt, was also present.

Shortly after the guests had taken their seats, his Excellency the Baron Brunnow, accompanied by the Baroness and their daughter, and a few private friends, entered the room. His Excellency went round the tables, spoke to the guests and the chairman, and altogether evinced great interest in the scene.

After dinner the chairman proposed "The health of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," which was drunk with enthusiasm, and followed by a few bars of the National Anthem.

The next toast was that of his "Royal Highness Prince Albert," with which was coupled the rest of the Royal Family.

Mr. Robert Waller proposed "The health of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia." He was sure it would require no recommendation from him to secure for this toast a worthy reception. He should not attempt to compliment, by any feeble words of his own, the exalted individual whose name he had been permitted to introduce, but would content himself with the simple expression of an earnest hope that the good feeling and friendship which had so long existed between our gracious Sovereign and the Emperor of Russia might never be interrupted (Loud cheers.) When the applause with which this toast was received had subsided, the band played the "Russian National Hymn." After which

The chairman said he was sure the tribute of respect which had been so cordially paid to his Imperial Majesty must be truly gratifying to his Excellency Baron de Brunnow, the Baroness, and the family.

Mr. John Waller, in a neatly eulogistic speech, proposed "The Health of his Excellency Baron de Brunnow," and thanks to him for the kind entertainment they had that day enjoyed.

His Excellency Baron de Brunnow presented himself, and begged permission, in his own name as well as that of his family, to express the pleasure they felt at seeing so large a company assembled on the occasion. It had been considered that the first entertainment to be given in their new residence was due to those who had assisted in completing it; and he returned to those present his sincerest acknowledgment for the kind manner

in which his health had been proposed and drunk. He regretted very much the poor accommodation at present afforded for their entertainment, and could only hope that their meeting was as satisfactory to them as their presence was gratifying to himself and family (Cheers).

The chairman felt sure he should be pardoned if he added a few words to what had fallen from the lips of his Excellency, whose last expression, before entering the splendid mansion in which they had assembled, was, that he thanked God, up to the present time, those employed upon the works had been protected from all serious accident (Cheers).

Mr. Scurry proposed "The health of the Baroness Brunnow," to whose excellent taste and judgment, as one of the draftsmen employed on the works, he had on many occasions been greatly indebted (Cheers).

This toast was received with marked enthusiasm, and followed by a duet, sung by the Misses Brougham.

His Excellency Baron Brunnow thanked the company for their kind reception of the toast—the health of the Baroness Brunnow. "Of course (added his Excellency), I have often been the witness of the suggestions she has made during the progress of these works, and I am bound to admit that her suggestions have been invariably carried out where it was possible. But there is one important thing she would have desired—she would have desired better accommodation for your entertainment this day (Cries of "No, no"). But your forbearance and your good temper have rendered our task easy indeed. I cannot thank you enough for this good temper, which is the peculiar characteristic of Englishmen (Cheers). There is another peculiarity of Englishmen also, and that is, they never fail in gratitude for kindness shown to them. I therefore appeal to your good feeling to join me in drinking to the good health of Mr. Thomas Cubitt" (Cheers).

Mr. George Cubitt returned thanks for the honour that had been paid to his father's name.

The Baron and Baroness here left the room, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to the most perfect social enjoyment, the hospitalities of the day being prolonged until a late hour.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. S. F. RAMSEY.

THIS very handsome silver-gilt Snuff-box, made by Williams and Clapham, of the Strand, has been forwarded to Canada West, for presentation to the Rev. Septimus F. Ramsey, M.A. (late incumbent of St. Michael's, Burleigh-street), by the members of his respective congrega-



SILVER-GILT SNUFF-BOX PRESENTED TO THE REV. S. F. RAMSEY, M.A.

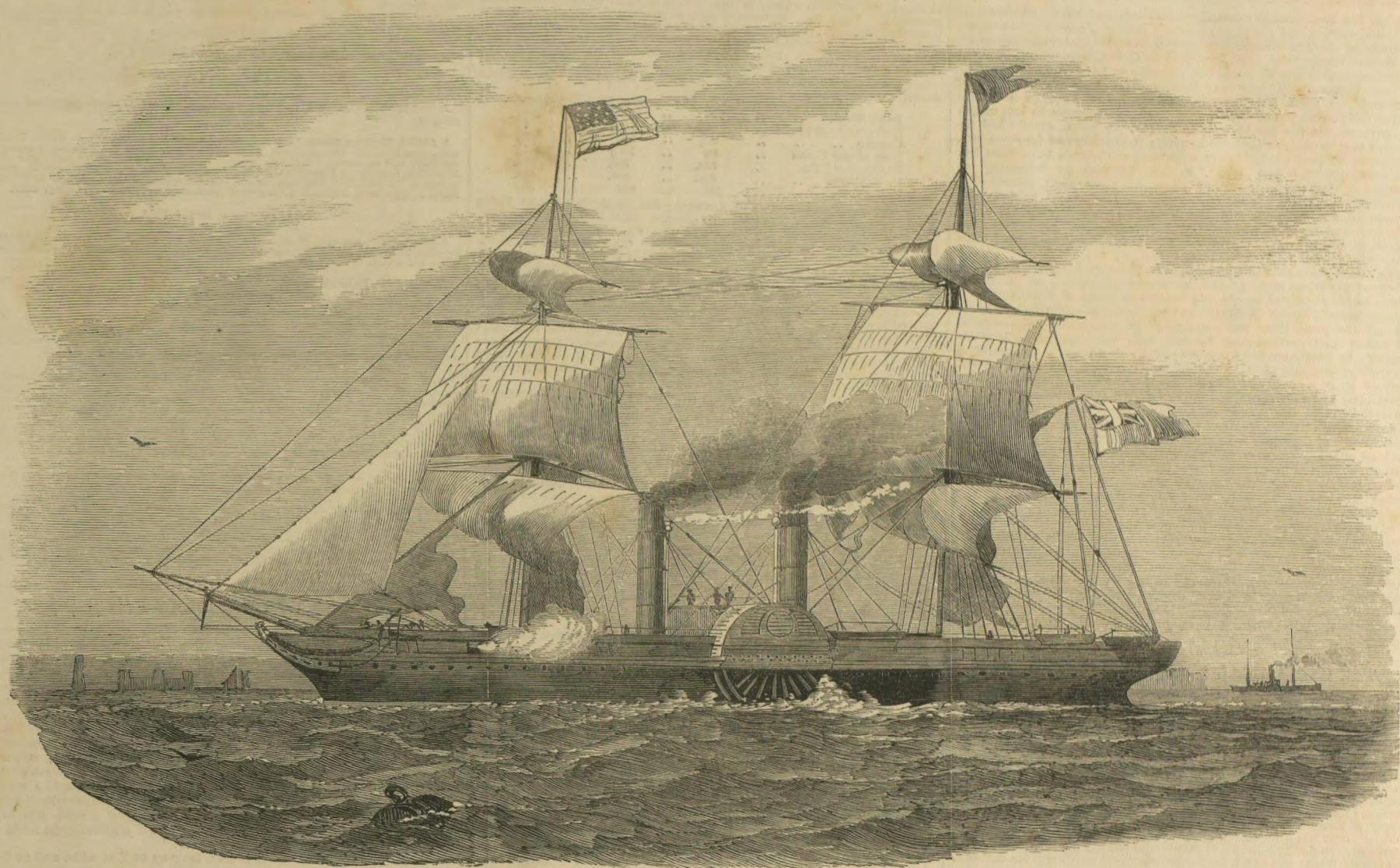
tions in the townships of Whitchurch and East Gwillimbury, in token of the high sense they entertain of his public services and private worth. The Bishop of Toronto has been pleased to express his satisfaction at the state of the churches in Mr. Ramsey's mission; and has highly approved of the testimonial which he so well deserved.

GOURA VICTORIA PIGEONS.

THESE handsome birds—*Goura Steurisi* (M. Temminck)—are found in the large islands of the Indian Archipelago and New Guinea. They live in the dense forests, and feed upon berries, seeds, grains, &c., which they seek for on the ground. The nest is formed upon a tree; and, like most of the species of pigeons, they lay but two eggs. The specimens here figured will be exhibited at the Poultry Show, to be held next week, at the Bazaar, Baker-street, Portman-square—originally announced to take place at the Oval, Kennington; the change being made in consequence of an objection by the Duchy of Cornwall to the Exhibition being held at the Oval, which is their property. The Show will commence on Tuesday, the 11th instant, to be continued the three following days. We intend to illustrate some of the most remarkable Prizes next week.



GOURA VICTORIA PIGEONS, TO BE EXHIBITED AT THE POULTRY SHOW, BAZAAR, BAKER-STREET.



THE NEW CUNARD STEAM-SHIP "ARABIA."

THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIP "ARABIA."

ON Saturday last, at noon, the magnificent new steam-ship the *Arabia*, Captain Judkins (built for the Cunard Company by Mr. Napier of Glasgow), sailed from the Mersey for New York, with a very large and valuable cargo of merchandise on board, in addition to sixty passengers, amongst whom were the Chevalier Hulsemann and Sir Alan M'Nab. The mails were placed in charge of Lieut. Scriven, R.N., Admiralty Agent. As she sailed down the river she was greeted with loud cheers, which were answered by those on board.

The *Arabia* is of the following dimensions:—285 feet keel and fore-rake; beam, 41 feet; depth of hold, 28 feet; Custom-house measurement, 2393 37-100 tons; the engines of 9 feet stroke; the diameter of the cylinders 103 inches; and the diameter of the paddle-wheels 26 feet. She is provided with tubular boilers, which are fired from amidships. She has two masts, unlike the other vessels of the company, which have three; and there are two chimneys. The *Arabia* may be considered almost a fac-simile of the *La Plata* (a vessel originally the *Arabia*, until purchased by the Royal West India Mail Company). The figure-head of the *Arabia* is an Arab chief, in a warlike attitude. The stern, which is elliptical, is beautifully ornamented. The promenade deck extends the entire length of the vessel.

The internal arrangements of the *Arabia* are very similar to those in the other vessels of the Cunard fleet, the comfort and convenience of passengers being the first consideration. Beneath the upper deck are saloons, stewards' pantry, &c. Between this pantry and the saloon two well-furnished libraries have been placed. The saloon itself is capable of dining 160 persons; and here a different style has been adopted from that to be seen in the other ships of the line. As the vessel has no mizenmast, the saloon forms an unbroken apartment; and the absence of the mast has also given an opportunity to introduce a cupola, filled with stained glass. The cabinet work is of bird's-eye maple, panelled with a marqueterie of ebony. The ceiling blends oak beams, with green, and gold, and white alternately. In the upholstery, crimson hangings have been adopted. The sofas are covered with Utrecht crimson velvet, and the floor is laid with a rich tapestry carpet. The stern lights of the saloon are filled with stained glass, representing groups of camels, with their drivers, and other Oriental sketches; and the opposite end of the saloon is decorated with plate-glass mirrors, in highly-wrought gilt frames.

There are no fire-places, the whole of the apartments being heated by steam pipes traversing the floors, and the temperature can be regulated at pleasure. The gentlemen's retiring saloon is panelled with bird's-eye maple, and curtained and carpeted in the same way as the saloon. The ladies' boudoir, on the same deck, is of satinwood, exquisitely carved in arabesques, and through the openings of which a crimson silk back-

ground is introduced. The sofas are covered with Utrecht velvet. A velvet pile carpet is laid on the floor, and the panels are adorned with paintings on glass, representing scenes in Arabia and other parts of the East; amongst which is a view of Jerusalem, another of Mount Ararat, and an encampment in the desert, which are particularly beautiful. The sleeping apartments are hung with Tournay curtains, and the floors are laid with Brussels carpets.

The *Arabia* is stated to have the largest and most powerful engines ever put into a ship, and the ease and facility with which they work is a marked feature in their performance. The *Arabia* carried about 1200 tons of coal, and a full cargo, besides passengers.

A SCENE AT THE THEATRE ROYAL, JERSEY.

CONSIDERABLE excitement has been caused in the island of Jersey about a song, but that song was the "Marseillaise." So much disturbance had arisen that the authorities ordered the theatre to be closed, and this measure increased the prevailing dissatisfaction. The circumstances appear to be briefly as follows:—A short time ago, Colonel Le Couteur compelled the *chef de musique* of the town band (Mr. Hagemann) to wait upon the French Consul, and tender an apology for having played the "Marseillaise" upon an occasion when the Lieutenant-Governor patronised the performances at the Theatre Royal, and when the French Vice-Consul and several officers of a French war steamer in the port were present. This act of Colonel Le Couteur excited much popular displeasure, and the storm burst forth on the night of Monday week, when the performances at the Theatre Royal were under the patronage of Colonel Le Couteur and the officers of the St. Helier's battalion. The performance was honoured by the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor, Major-General Love, at whose entrance into the theatre the audience rose and the band played "God save the Queen." After the first act, the audience *en masse* demanded the "Marseillaise." The orchestra executed instead the air, "Mourir pour la Patrie," which was received with acclamations. But the audience were determined to have the obnoxious air, and when the curtain fell at the end of the second act, the demands for the "Marseillaise" were repeated, and the noise became deafening. Mr. Hagemann quitted his seat, and approaching Colonel Couteur, appeared to ask his commands, the nature of which was inferred when it was seen that the musicians was preparing to leave the orchestra. The confusion now became indescribable. Shouts, groans, hisses, and exclamations were directed at Colonel Le Couteur, who, with eight of his officers, left the theatre. The Lieutenant-Governor did the same, and the Vice-Consul of France followed his example.

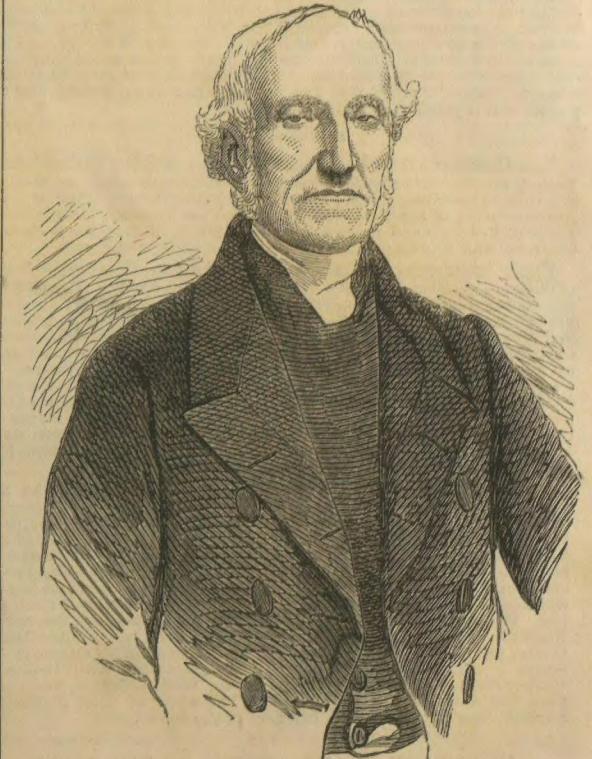
The clamour continuing, M. Alexandre, the manager, came forward, and declared that, holding, as he did, his *brevet* from the French Minister, it was impossible to accede to the request of the audience. The "Marseillaise" was then sung by a large portion of the audience.

On the Wednesday following, the performances were under the patronage of the tradesmen and artisans of the city, when a special band of music had been engaged to execute the "Marseillaise." On Wednesday the walls of the city were covered with placards, announcing that the "Marseillaise" would be played in the theatre at night, and these placards were signed with the name of Col. Le Couteur, turned upside down. We need not say that these placards did not emanate from the gallant Colonel. At the usual hour of performance the theatre was surrounded by an immense mass of persons, who found the portico occupied by the police. The crowd then learned that the Baillie, fearing a riot, had ordered the theatre to be closed. This announcement caused much dissatisfaction. A few score of persons under the portico of the theatre thundered forth the "Marseillaise," the chorus of which was heartily taken up by the crowd. Three groans were then given for Colonel Le Couteur, and the singers repaired to the house of M. Thomas le Breton, where they again sang the interdicted air. The police now interfered and dispersed the crowd, which, however, reappeared in front of the theatre, and sang "God save the Queen."

Such was the end of an affair, to which much importance has been attached in the island. It is expected that the matter will be brought under the notice of the tribunals.

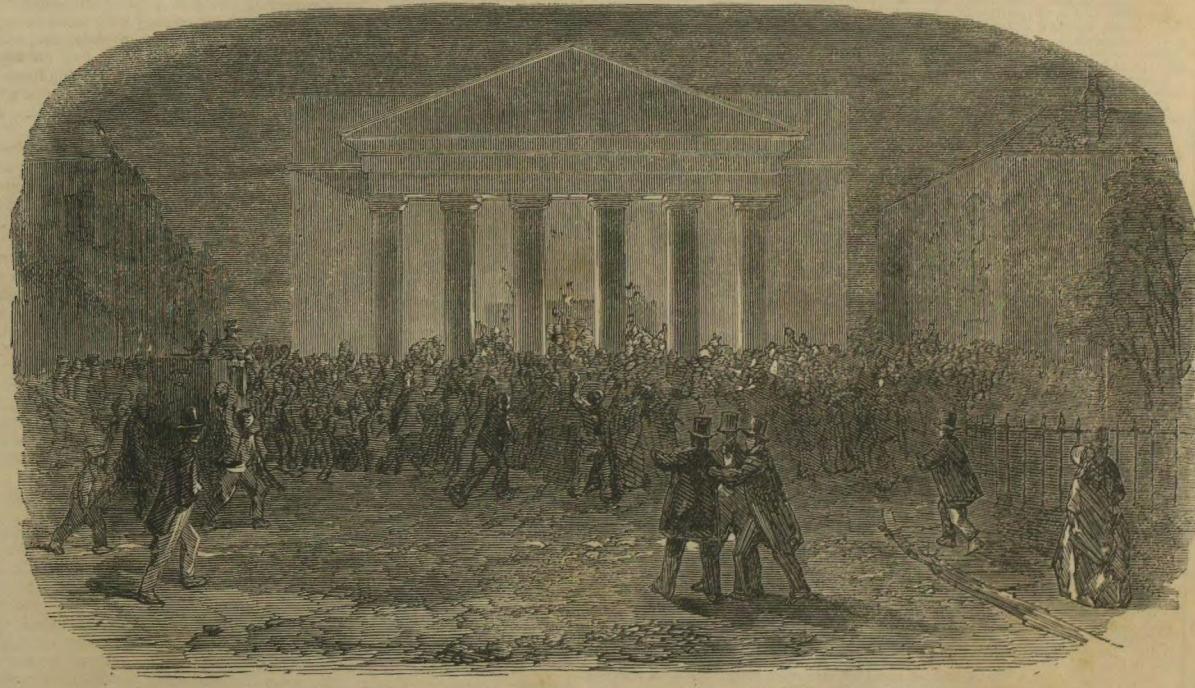
THOMAS WRIGHT, THE MANCHESTER PRISON PHILANTHROPIST.

THE peculiar claims of this venerable man upon the gratitude of the public have already been ably advocated in the public journals, and



THOMAS WRIGHT, THE MANCHESTER PRISON PHILANTHROPIST

primarily by Mr. Dickens, in his "Household Words." Such an instance of self-denial and practical philanthropy has rarely been recorded. For several years Thomas Wright has spent all the spare time he could snatch from his daily labour in the prisoner's cell, sympathising with the lost position of the inmate, and, by kind persuasion and earnest prayer, exhorting future amendment and restoration to society. The chaplain of the Salford Prison testifies:—"In numerous instances



DISTURBANCE IN FRONT OF THE THEATRE ROYAL, JERSEY.

Wright has succeeded in reconciling husbands and wives, parents and children, masters and workmen; and in a variety of cases he has assisted in enabling convicts of superior education to regain their caste in society by means of emigration; and in several instances, condemned criminals have sought to obtain his Christian sympathy and assistance at the foot of the gallows." Wright was then a weekly servant at Messrs. Ormerod and Sons, iron-founders, in Manchester, whom he faithfully served forty-seven years. His weekly wages, as foreman in one of the departments, viz. the moulder, was £2 10s. per week, £2 of which he handed over to his wife for housekeeping; the rest he had for years employed in his good work. When unfortunate criminals have been left for execution, he has made it his business as frequently as possible to visit them, exhorting them to make their peace with their offended Maker; and it is truly gratifying to witness the success of his endeavours in the testimonies which this good old man has received from various criminals previous to their execution—each breathing a silent prayer that God would bless and reward their venerable benefactor in his declining years.

His prison visits have not been confined to Lancashire, but have been extended to various other prisons, in Scotland, London, and the hulks; where he has conferred inestimable benefits on many of their inmates.

Soon after Thomas Wright's services became extensively known through the press, there was commenced in Manchester a subscription for a fund to relieve him from his daily toil, and thus enable him exclusively to follow up the work of social reformation so congenial to his feelings, and beneficial to the country at large. Within a comparatively short period, upwards of £2800 were raised, principally in Manchester and Liverpool; and the committee of gentlemen who took upon themselves the raising of the fund, have brought their labours to a close which may be regarded as successful. The amount of subscriptions received, including £100 from the Royal Bounty Fund, through the Earl of Derby, is £2246, the larger portion of which has been thus disposed of: £1002 7s. sunk in the purchase of a Government annuity for Mr. Wright's life, producing £102 per annum; and £2000 to be invested immediately in Manchester corporation bonds, producing £80 per annum. After deducting a small sum for expenses, a balance of £186 remained, which has been paid over to Mr. Wright. By this arrangement, the venerable philanthropist is now in the receipt of an amount equal to that sum which up to a recent period he received from his daily labour in the iron-manufactory to which he was then attached; while a permanent provision is made for those whom he may leave behind him. Mr. Wright is in good health; and there is reason to hope that many years yet remain for him, in which he may still exercise the benevolent sympathies which have gained for him this honourable recompence.

THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

This national and valuable survey is rapidly progressing towards completion, under the direction of Sir H. T. De la Beche, and his coadjutors of the Museum of Geology. The counties of which the surveys are already completed, are Brecknock, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Caernarvon, Cornwall, Devon, Glamorgan, Merioneth, Monmouth, Montgomery, Pembridge, Radnor, and Somerset; and in Ireland, Carlow, Dublin, Wicklow, and Wexford. The counties in part completed comprise Dorset, Gloucester, Hereford, Shropshire, Brecon, Denbigh, Flint, Anglesea, Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire. The survey of Scotland has not yet commenced; but will be, as soon as a sufficient area has been topographically surveyed by the Ordnance Department. In addition to the counties enumerated above, we may add the Isle of Wight and South Staffordshire, which wait only for the final colouring previous to publication. The Geological maps are, as our readers are probably aware, founded on the basis of the Ordnance Survey, and consist of the topographical maps, coloured from the observation of the gentlemen engaged in the Geological Survey. There are at present six persons—not, of course, including assistants—employed in the field in England, under the superintendence of Mr. Rainey, the eminent geologist; and several in Ireland, under the direction of Mr. Beete Jukes; three at the Museum of Geology, who have charge of the collection of surveys; and various persons employed in the Natural History department, under the control of Professor E. Forbes. This survey being founded on a basis so accurate and extensive as that of the Ordnance topographical charts, the geologist is enabled to lay down facts which, for accuracy of general outline, as well as minuteness of detail, are most remarkable. The boundaries of each formation and subdivision, and the order of the various strata of slate, freestone, limestone, gypsum, the various orders of sandstones, of coal, and metalliferous beds, are laid down with the greatest minuteness and accuracy. Of the value of the maps, in a scientific and economic point of view, it is impossible to speak too highly. A striking instance of the value of this survey is afforded in the case of the map of South Staffordshire. The annual value of the coal and mineral raised from this exceeds £7,500,000. Most of the beds of ironstone are being rapidly exhausted, and in a great part of the district "the thick coal" has been extracted. It is, therefore, most important to ascertain the positions in which other coal-bearing strata may be found. The examination made by Mr. Hill and others connected with the geological survey, has gone far to solve that most important problem. For many years past the lower new red sandstone, or "Permian," was confounded with the ordinary red sandstone; the result of the survey has, however, shown that it belongs entirely to a lower set of beds, and a clue has been obtained by which they may be readily distinguished. The results of this discovery are shown upon the map of the district, shortly to be issued, and indicating, as it will, the "faults" which at certain points have raised the "Permian" to the surface, and with it the concealed coal measures, will point out clearly those places in which coal may be sought with every probability of success, without undergoing the necessity of sinking through several hundred feet of rock—in some cases, upwards of one thousand feet—which overlie the strata in other places. Upon the map, which includes a district of about 450 square miles, each outcrop of coal is marked by black lines, and dislocations in the strata affecting the coal measures by white lines. The lower red sandstone is shown by brown colour, the new by pale red, and the new red marl by a darker red; basalt and igneous rocks are denoted by green, and limestone by blue. Accompanying the map will be vertical sections showing all the details of the lie of the strata, on a scale of forty feet to the inch. The maps of other parts of the country, where there are no strata of apparent value, will also be accompanied by vertical sections, showing all the scientific details, in order that the survey, when completed, may be as perfect as it is possible for such a work to be.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—In addition to the Ealing Rectory Estate, this Society has just purchased another estate in Middlesex, close to the Hounslow station, on the South-Western Windsor line. At the meeting of the Executive Committee on Tuesday, the 4th inst., Viscount Ranelagh and Colonel Brownlow, K.N.O.X., M.P., were re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Society for the present year.

FIRST SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH IN AMERICA.—The laying down of the first submarine cable in the United States, and which is ultimately intended to connect the continent of Europe with the continent of America, has just been successfully completed. The cable which forms the first section of the Newfoundland Electric Telegraph works has been sunk between Cape Tormentine, in the province of New Brunswick, and Carlton Head, on Prince Edward's Is. and by Captain Kennedy and Mr. Gisborne. It was a work of considerable difficulty, and the water being shallow on the New Brunswick coast, the steamer could not get within a mile of the shore, so that one mile of cable had to be conveyed on shore by means of a kedge anchor and four horses and oxen. The line, having been completed from Sackville, New Brunswick, to Charlotte Town, Prince Edward's Island, has been thrown open to the public.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.—Important intelligence has arrived from Naples, which will especially affect the interests connected with our woollen manufactures. The King, by a decree dated the 27th of December, has raised the export duty on olive oil in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies to about £8 12s. per ton (and to about £13 per ton by foreign flag of those countries that have not treaties of reciprocity), being an increase of about £5 12s. per ton on the old rate. At the same time the import duty on this article is reduced one-half, namely, from £17 to £8 10s. per ton. The civic duty, or octroi, on oil for the consumption of the city of Naples is reduced 1 ducat per cantar, or about £2 2s. per ton—that is to say, from 3.20 ducats to 2.20 per cantar. Some further clauses of the decree prohibit the export from the kingdom of the Two Sicilies of beans, Indian corn, potatoes, French beans, vetches, lentils, and chick peas, and also tallow and hogs' lard. The whole of these regulations were to come into force from the date of the decree.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Although the revenue returns for the past quarter are unusually favourable, and a fair average money business has been doing in the National Stocks; the market for Consols has been in a very inactive state during the whole of the week, and prices have tended downwards. The leading causes of the depression are the advance in the rates of discount by the directors of the Bank of England, the comparative tightness of the Money Market, and the continuous shipments of gold to Russia and elsewhere. How far the Directors are justified in the step they have taken, remains to be seen; nevertheless, it is evident, looking to the adverse nature of the Continental exchanges, that large additional supplies of bullion will be abstracted from our coffers, unless efforts be made

to check the outflow, which, in the present state of things, is somewhat unnatural. That the Continental trade is considerably against England is evident from the unusual scarcity of drawers on the two last exchange nights. Parcels of coined gold have been forwarded to Sydney, the amount being £70,000. This demand must of necessity continue so long as Australia is without a mint.

Subjoined is a statement of the fluctuations in the prices of home stocks during the past year:

	Lowest.	Highest.	Difference.
Bank Stock	216	234	18
Reduced 3 per Cents	96	101	5
Consols	95	101	6
New 3 1/2 per Cents	98	105	7
Exchequer Bills	538	838	300
India Bonds	658	948	290
India Stock	257	287	30

Prices, generally, were lowest in January; but Bank Stock and India Stock were dearest in July, and Exchequer Bills in June. In 1851, Consols only fluctuated 3 1/2; India Stock, 9; and Bank Stock, 3 per cent. Exchequer Bills varying about 25s. On Monday, Bank Stock marked 224s; Three per Cents Reduced, 101 1/2; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 104 1/2; India Bonds, 83s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 72s. premium; Consols for Account, 100s. The market on Tuesday and Wednesday was very flat, and the quotations were not maintained. On Thursday, very few purchases of stock were effected, and the quotations suffered further decline, from causes to which we have alluded above. Bank Stock was 224s to 223s; the Three per Cents Reduced were 101 1/2; Three per Cent Consols, 100 1/2 ex. div.; New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 104 1/2; Long Annuities, 6s; Ditto, 30 years 6s ex. div.; India Bonds, 83s. prem.; South Sea New Annuities, 90s; Consols for Account, 100s; Exchequer Bills, 70s. to 73s. prem.

The imports of bullion have amounted to about £70,000 from Constantinople, £200,000 from Australia, and 25,000 dollars from New York. The next return of the Bank of England is expected to show a decline of £200,000 in the stocks of the precious metals.

Money has been in improved demand, and first-class bills in Lombard-street are now done at from 1 1/2 to 2 per cent per annum. The quantity of really good paper afloat is enormous.

In the Foreign House no new feature worthy of particular notice has presented itself. Parcels of Danish, Belgian, and Portuguese Bonds have been called.

On Thursday, Brazilian Bonds, New, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, were 99 to 98s; Grenada Deferred, 12s; Mexican Three per Cents, 23 1/2; Ditto, for the Account, 23s; Portuguese Four per Cents, for the Account, 30s; Russian Five per Cents, 12 1/2; Sardinian Five per Cents, 95s; Spanish Three per Cents, 49 1/2 ex. div.; Ditto, New Deferred, 23 1/2 ex. div.; Ditto, Passive, 8s; Spanish Committee's Certificate of Coupon not funded, 4s per cent; Turkish Loan, 8p. prem.; Austrian Five per Cents, 88; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 66s to 66s ex. div.; Dutch Four per Cents, 92s.

Miscellaneous Shares have been steady. Australian Agricultural have marked 285 to 290; South Australian Land, 67 to 69; Van Diemen's Land, 22 to 24; Union Bank of Australia, 72s to 73s; Bank of Australasia, 82s to 83s; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 3 to 3 1/2 prem.; English, Scottish, and Australian, 1 1/2 to 2 prem.; Bank of India, China, and Australia, 1 1/2 to 1 1/4 prem.; Fife River Land and Mineral, 11s to 12s prem.; Great Nugget Vein, 4s to 4 1/2; General Steam Navigation, 28s; General Screw Steam, 51s to 52s; North of Europe Steam, 2s; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 89 to 90s; Royal Mail Steam, 80 to 80s.

The position of mining affairs in this country appears to have greatly improved. In 1852, the dividends paid upon English mines were about £260,000; upon Scotch, £100; Welsh, £16,000; and Irish £17,000. Foreign mines paid £112,000.

Comparatively speaking, the demand for English Railway Shares has been in a very inactive state, and prices have not been supported. The total "calls" last year were £8,043,004, including the proportion called by foreign companies. The following were the official closing money prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 32; Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 7; Bristol and Exeter, 108s; Caledonian, 66s; Chester and Holyhead, 23s; Cork and Bandon, 18s; East Anglian, 6; Eastern Counties, 13s; Eastern Union, B and C, 7s; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 28s; Great Northern Stock, 80s; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 10s; Great Western, 93s; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 82s; Ditto, Fifths, 11s; Ditto, West Riding Union, 8s; Leeds, Northern, 17s; London and Blackwall, 9s; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 5s; London and Brighton, 10s; London and North-Western, 12s; Do. Fifths, 12s; London and South-Western, 90s; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 30s; Midland, 79s; Newmarket, 52s; Newcastle, 58s; Norfolk, 56s; Northern Counties Union, 3s; North British, 40s; North Devon, 62s; North Staffordshire, 12s; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 58s; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 66s; Shropshire Union, 7s; South Devon, 23s; South-Eastern, 2s; South Wales, 39s; Vale of Neath, 13s; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 72; Ditto, Extensions, 13; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 92s; York and North Midland, 59.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 110s; Hull and Selby, 114; Midland Bradford, 10s; Wilts and Somerset, 106s.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Aberdeen, No. 2, 4s; Caledonian, 107; Eastern Counties Extensions No. 1, 1 1/2 prem.; ditto New Six per Cent Stock, 15; Great Northern, 127; ditto Five per Cent, 112; Great-Western fixed at Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 109s; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 9; Norfolk (Waveney Valley), 24; North British, 102; South-Eastern, 26s; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 103s.

FOREIGN.—Dijon and Besançon, 7s; East India, 27 ex New; Grand Junction of France, 8; Luxembourg, 7s; ditto, Railway, 5s; Northern of France, 34s; ditto, £20 Bonds, 15s; Paris and Lyons, 25s; Paris and Orleans, 38; Paris and Rouen, 38s; Paris and Strasbourg, 31s; Paris, Caen, and Cherbourg, 8s; Rouen and Havre, 20; Sambre and Meuse, 10s; Upper India, Scrip, 9 prem.; Western of France, 18s; Western of Switzerland, 2; Namur and Liège, 8s.

Anglo-Californian Mining Shares were 1 1/2; Australasian, 64s; Ave Maria, 13 to 1 1/2; Golden Mountain, 1 1/2; Nouveau Monde, 2s; Fort Phillip, 34; Santiago de Cuba, 8; United Mexican, 9; Yuba, 2 to 1 1/2.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Although the arrivals of English wheat up to our market, this week, coastwise and by land carriage, have been on a very small scale, the offers have all been ruled heavy. Picked samples have mostly been sold at full price, but other quantities have been offered at lower rates. In foreign wheats comparatively little business has been transacted; but we have no change to notice in their value. Fine barley has continued scarce, and quite as dear; but grinding and distilling sorts have met a dull inquiry. Malt has sold slowly, at late rates. Oats have realised full currencies; but beans, peas, and flour have been much neglected.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 42s to 53s; ditto, white, 41s. to 60s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 38s to 53s; ditto, white, 44s to 57s.; rye, 28s to 30s.; grinding barley, 26s. to 28s.; distilling ditto, 22s to 30s.; malting ditto, 29s to 33s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 54s. to 58s.; brown ditto, 50s to 54s.; Kingston and Ware, 57s to 61s.; Chevalier, 60s to 63s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 17s to 22s.; potato ditto, 21s. to 24s.; Trough and Cork, black, 17s. to 20s.; ditto, white, 18s. to 22s.; tick beans, new, 34s. to 36s.; ditto, old, 36s. to 38s.; grey peas, 31s to 33s.; maple, 37s. to 39s.; white, 36s. to 38s.; boilers, 37s. to 40s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 41s. to 46s.; Suffolk, 33s. to 36s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 33s. to 37s. per 280 lb. **Foreign:** American flour, 22s. to 25s. per barrel; Proust, 31s. to 38s. per sack.

Seeds.—The general demand is steady, but we have no change to notice in prices.

Linen.—English, sovring, 50s. to 56s.; Baltic, crushing, 40s. to 48s.; Mediterranean and Odesa, 48s. to 52s.; hemps, 37s. to 41s. per quarter; Corländ, 9s. to 12s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 7s. to 10s.; white ditto, 7s. to 10s.; and tares, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed new, £21 to £24 per cwt. of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 9s. to £10 6s.; ditto, foreign, 48s. to £10 5s. per ton. Rape cakes, 4s 12s. to 4s 15s. per ton. Canary, 38s. to 42s. per quarter.

Bread.—The price of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7d. to 1d. of household ditto, 5d. to 6d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Beer and Lager.—Wheat, 40s 7d.; barley, 29s 8d.; oats, 18s. 9d.; rye, 28s. 7d.; beans, 35s. 1d.; hops, 32s. 1d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 40s 4d.; barley, 29s. 1d.; oats, 18s. 6d.; rye, 28s. 10d.; beans, 35s. 1d.; hops, 32s. 1d.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; hops, 1s.

Treaty.—The shot of samples is tolerably extensive, yet the demand is steady and prices are well supported. Common sound congo is selling at 10d. to 10d. per lb. During last year, duty was paid on 41,739,232 lb., again at 10d. in 1851.

Sugar.—All raw qualities have realised 35s. 6d. to 40s.; crystallized Demerara, 35s. 6d. to 42s. 6d.; good and fine yellow Mauritius, 36s. to 40s.; low mkt., 34s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; good to fine brown, 32s. to 36s.; mid., 30s. to 34s.; low yellow Bengal, 39s. to 42s. 6d.; fine white Bengal, 36s. to 40s.; good Madras, 31s. to 35s.; ord. to fine yellow Penang, 32s. to 38s. 6d. per cwt. **Refined** goods steady, at from 40s. to 48s. per cwt.

Coffee.—Our market is somewhat firmer, yet P.Y.C. on the spot may be purchased at 45s. to 4

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, Oxford-street. Under the management of Mr. CHARLES KEAN.—MONDAY, JAN. 10, will be performed Shakespeare's Historical Play of *HENRY VIII*, and the new and original comic *CHRISTMAS COMEDY* of *HARLEQUIN AND ZADKIEL*. FAIR-STAR: The Green Bird, the Dancing Water, and the Singing Tree. Tuesday, 11th: Much Ado about Nothing, and the Pantomime. Wednesday, 12th: The Corsican Brothers, The Spitalfields Weaver, and the Pantomime. Thursday, 13th: Hamlet, and the Pantomime. Friday, 14th: Twelfth Night, and the Pantomime. Saturday, 15th: The Iron Chest, and the Pantomime.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—A Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. BATTY.—Open every Evening with the immensely successful Drama of *UNCLE TOM'S CABIN*; to be followed by novel and extraordinary SCENES in the CIRCLE. To conclude with the Grand Comic Pantomime entitled *FORTUNIO* and his *HORSE COMBATE*; or, Harlequin and the Seven Gifted Men. On THURSDAY, 13th of JANUARY, a GRAND JUVENILE NIGHT, on which occasion there will be an entire Change in the Amusements, commencing with the inimitable Comic Pantomime; after which a novel arrangement of the Scenes in the Arena, supported by the juvenile artistes, entitled the *INFANT EQUESTRIAN MARIONETTES*; concluding with a laughable Farce. Stage Manager, Mr. W. West. Doors open at Half-past Six. Box-office open daily from Eleven to Four.

VITELLI'S GRAND VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL CONCEIT (being the first of the season), will take place at the *CROSEY-HALL*, Bishopton-street, on WEDNESDAY EVENING next, JANUARY 12th. Vocalists—Mrs. A. Newbold, Miss Lowe, Mrs. T. Distin, Miss Jacobs, and Miss Cicy Nott; Sig. Anorati, Mr. E. L. Hine, Mr. Vitelli, Messrs. H. W. and T. Distin, Herr Yonglimans, and Mons. H. Drayton. Instrumentalists—Molles, E. St. Marc (piano), Sig. Le Calsi (piano), and Messrs. Distin (Saxophone). Conductor—Mr. J. Wilby.—Platform Seats, 4s.; Reserved Seats, 3s.; Box of the Hall, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets may be had at the Hall, as above.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S ASCENT of MONT BLANC every Evening, at Eight o'clock. Stalls, 3s., which can be secured at the Box-office every day, from Eleven to Four. Areas, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. A Morning Performance every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

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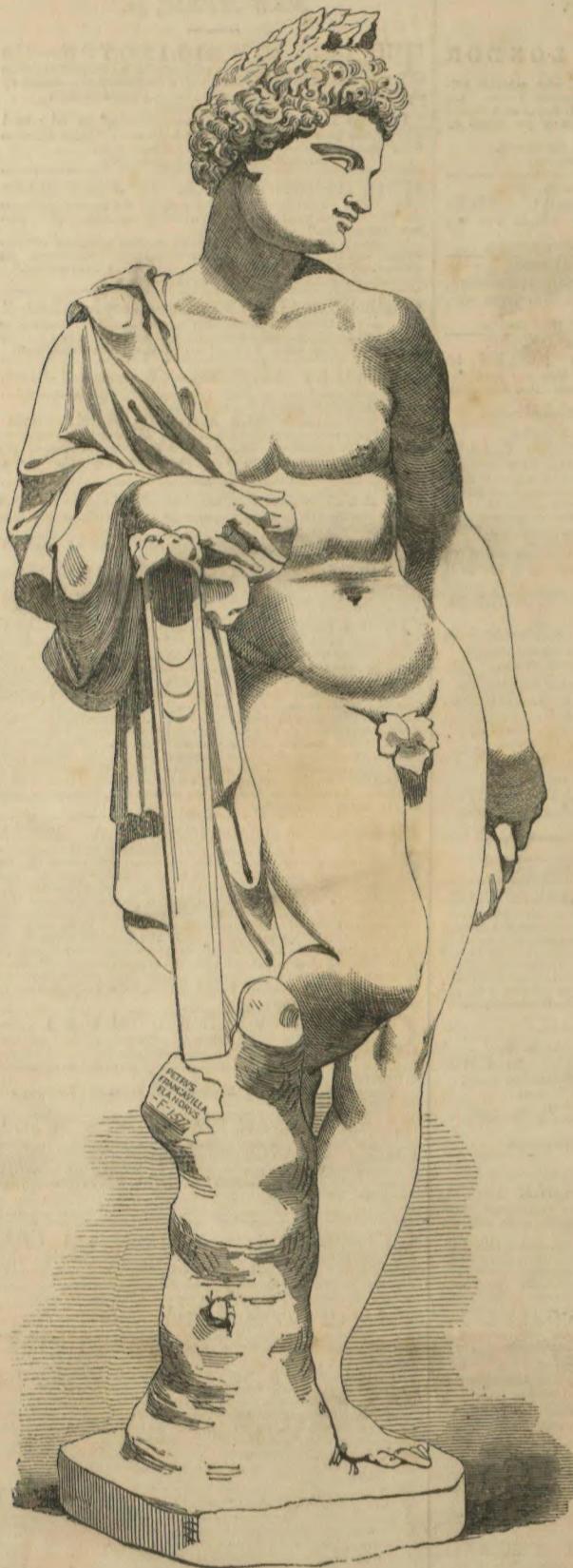
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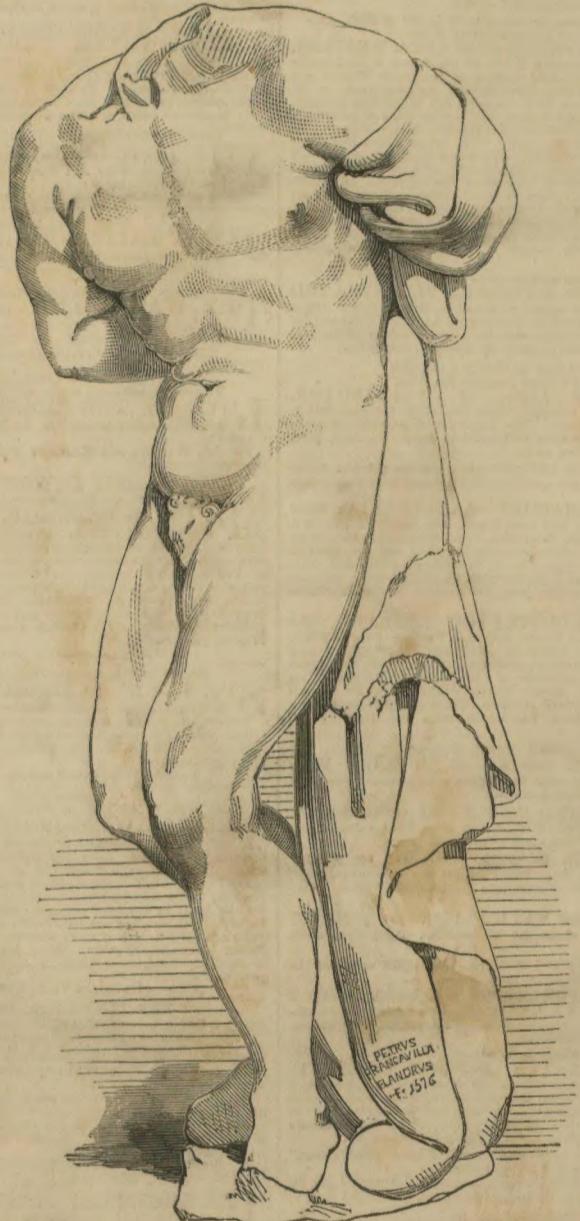
MARBLE STATUES FOUND IN WINDSOR GREAT PARK.

(Continued from page 30.)

must have lain in their hiding-place during a considerable time—five-and-twenty or thirty years at least; and the probability is that they have been there much longer. The very absence of any record of their removal would show that they have long been lost sight of and forgotten. The *Times*, we think, is a little premature when it states: "We believe it will be found that these statues formed part of the exterior decorations of the once famous 'Royal Cottage,' and were removed and hastily thrown aside in consequence of some sudden whim of George IV." It is hardly to be supposed that the casting away of these ponderous blocks of marble, weighing in the whole some twenty tons, could have been done within our generation 'so hastily,' and, as a matter of whim or chance. It is not likely that George IV., though his taste was not of the highest order, would have consented to "throw away" works of the kind we are now speaking of, and all by the same artist. Since the above suggestion appeared in the *Times*, the columns of the same journal have given a letter from a correspondent, who states that these statues were removed, some years ago, in artillery waggon, from the British Museum, by order of George IV. The statement is one which, if true, is capable of verification. The national institution in question is closed for the present week for the Christmas; but will re-open next week, when there will be an opportunity of investigating all the circumstances.



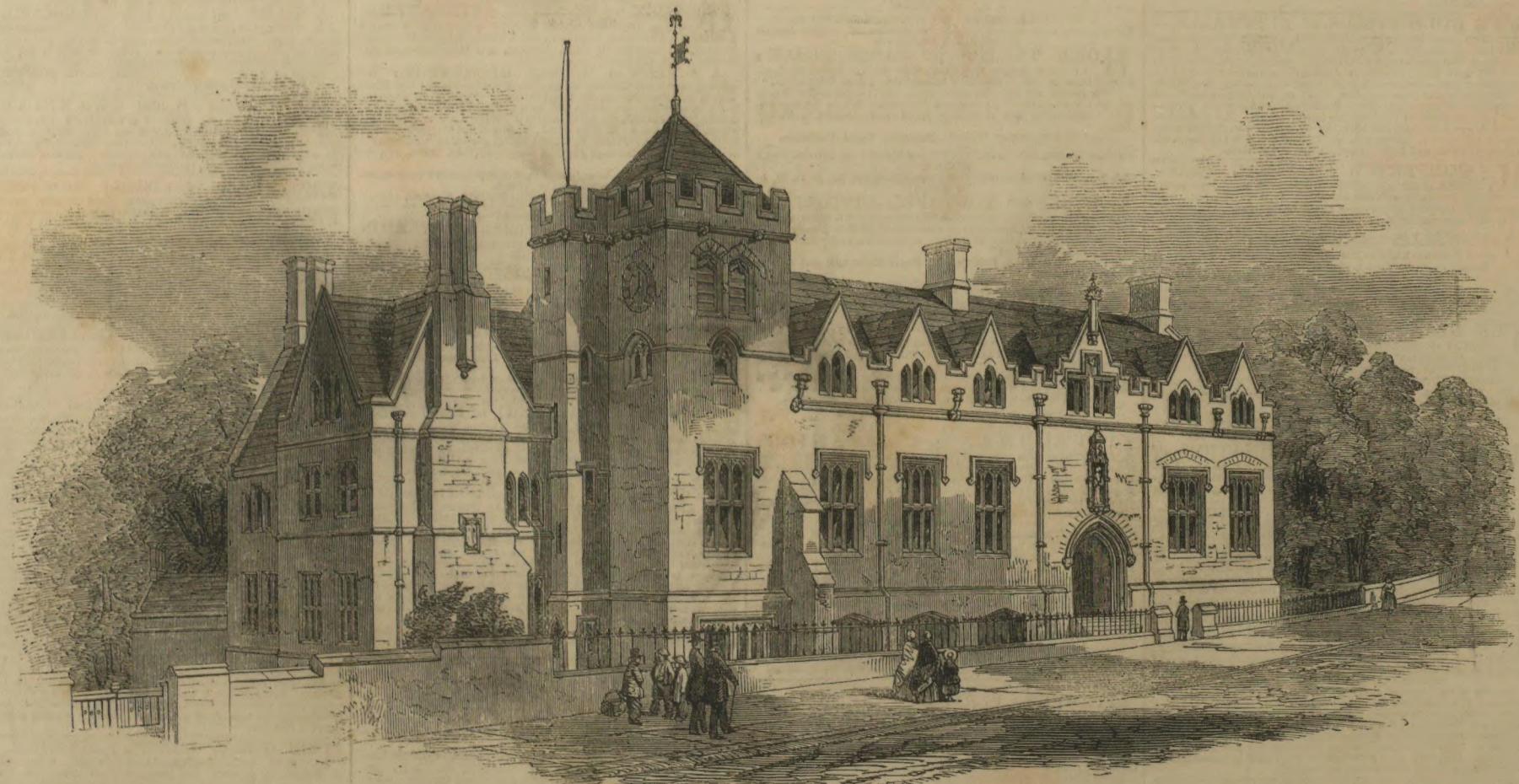
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THE NEW GRAMMAR-SCHOOL, LANCASTER.—(SEE PAGE 30.)